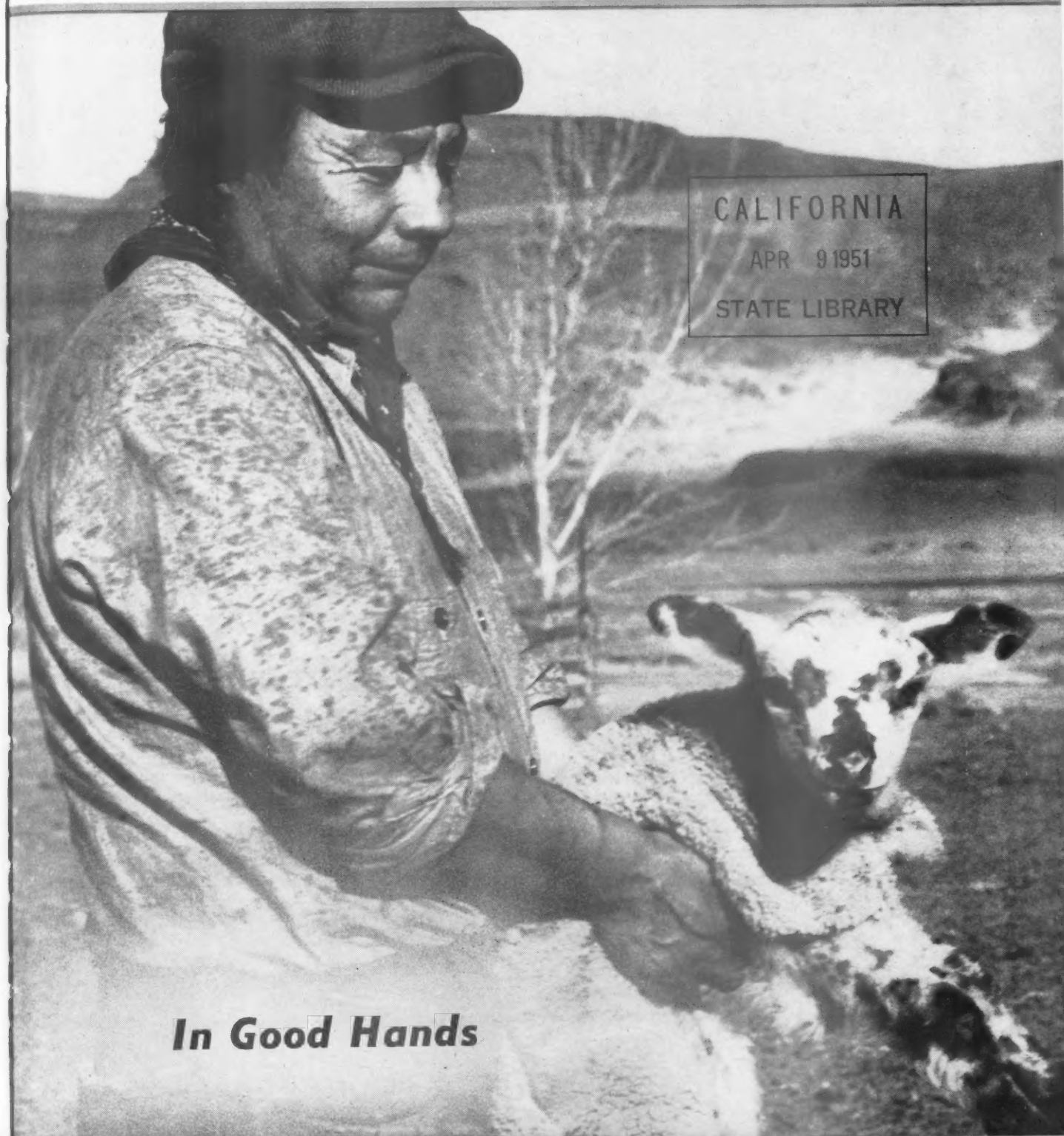


# THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

Volume XLI

APRIL, 1951

Number 4



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### **AUGUST 20 and 21, 1951**

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#### **No. 1 of a series — "WHAT IS THE VALUE OF A GOOD RAM?"**

by DR. JULIUS E. NORDBY, Director  
U. S. Sheep Experiment Station  
Dubois, Idaho

THE value of a ram varies in the proportion in which he is able to effect improvement in the flock to which he is bred. Whenever progress occurs in a flock by the introduction of improved breeding through a good ram, the validity of the axiom—"The ram is half the flock" is seriously strained, because in such a case, as for instance in our range sheep industry, there could have been no improve-



**Dr. Nordby**

ment in the flock unless the ram supplied more than half of the heritable qualities that contributed to the progress. The ram that improves production, is therefore, more than half the flock.

As the production in a flock rises it becomes increasingly difficult for a ram to effect improvement, and therein lies the challenge to the ram breeder, and to research effort. The industry will look to them for the answer to their need for a supply of good rams whose production merit will stay progressively ahead of their flocks.

# Briefly Speaking...

## Dean Hill

THE wool industry and the public at large has lost a great man, John A. Hill—great in his achievements, great in humility and kindness. It is most fitting that his memorial should be a living one: a Dean Hill Scholarship to be built up by contributions from those benefited by having come in contact with this great teacher and agricultural leader. Dr. J. F. Wilson of the University of California, a former student of Dr. Hill's, wrote the Wool Grower's tribute to him.

## Growers Not Represented

Wool growers haven't been given much chance to be heard officially in the discussions of wool ceiling price orders (see editorial page). Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming at one time was assured by the OPS that J. B. Wilson would be named a wool consultant to that agency. The appointment did not come through because the OPS claimed trade association executives may not be selected for such posts. At present, however, a grower representative is being permitted to sit in at all meetings of the Wool Advisory Committees. Mr. Wilson attended several of these meetings prior to leaving for the West on March 25 and Secretary Jones will now attend them.

## Reorganization Bills

Congress has before it all of the bills necessary to complete consideration of the recommendations of the Hoover Commission. Section 7 of S. 1149 provides for the transfer of the Bureau of Land Management to the Department of Agriculture. If enacted this would mean consolidating, within the Department of Agriculture, of the administration of grazing on Taylor district lands and on the national forests.

## Fencing Ranges Pays Off

Kleber H. Hadsell and Curtis Rochelle, who run sheep in Wyoming's Red Desert country, claim fencing their range lands in cooperation with the Agricultural Conservation Program is paying off. Gains under such projects are listed as: cleaner wool; thriftier ewes; higher lamb yields; improved feed; less acute herder problem and reduction of that expense by half. Rochelle estimates his fence will cost \$22,000 and his annual savings in wages and upkeep amounts to something over \$7,000. Both Hadsell and Rochelle believe a new frontier of range management is opening up through fencing.

This is just part of the story "On the Other Side of the Fence" by Milt Mangum in this issue.

## Two Blades of Grass For One

In an area where the annual rainfall runs from 20 to 25 inches, Australian pastures, through the introduction of a few pounds of grass and clover seed and about 90 pounds of superphosphate per acre, have turned native pastures with a capacity of one dry sheep to an acre to a lush area that supports two breeding ewes to the acre. To subterranean clover—introduced from Europe where it is a weed—is attributed much of the magic in this improvement. As with most good things, however, there are some counter-balancing factors to the profitable results, most disturbing of which is a very puzzling disease referred to as "sub. clover infertility" disease.

With the addition of about 60 cents worth of copper and zinc salts to the acre of soil in southeast South Australia, it is possible to grow grass and clover that will support two breeding ewes to the acre, where formerly sheep could not be grazed without losing condition rapidly.

These are just two of more spectacular programs covered by Colin Webb in his article "New Pastures Boost Australian Sheep Production," which brings out the determination of sheepmen in that country to develop every acre in such a way that it will produce its maximum in wool and meat.

## Weather Affects Wool

Environment has a very important role in determining the quality of fleeces. In fact, primitive sheep had two coats, a coarse outer coat and a fine undercoat. The top coat protected the under one from injury due to weather and other environmental conditions. Improved breeds have lost their outer coats unless man-made ones are provided for them. How rain, humidity, soil and heat affect the wool fiber and what can be done to prevent the weathering of wool were made the subject of intensive study by Gurbax Singh Mahal at the Wyoming University; his article appears in this issue.



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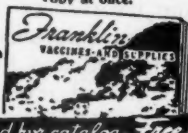
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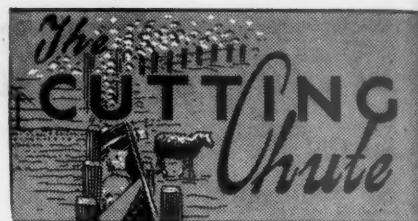
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### CONSERVE BURLAP AND COTTON BAGS

Periods of tight supply are probably approaching again. Such a condition is cited by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in burlap and cotton bags. They suggest that the bags be kept in use by returning them to dealers, etc., and that they be handled carefully.

### ACKERMAN PLANS EUROPEAN TRIP

President F. E. Ackerman of the Wool Bureau, Inc., plans to leave on a business trip to Europe on April 25th. His itinerary includes England, Ireland, France and probably Spain. His European trip is being made with a view to coordinating some phases of world wool promotion work.

### BURBACK HEADS DENVER LAND OFFICE

Harold Burback, who has been in charge of the soil and moisture conservation program of the Bureau of Land Management in Utah and Colorado, was made manager of the Denver Land and Survey Office of the Bureau of Land Management on February 28th. Mr. Burback is known to Wool Grower readers through his frequent contributions.

### SECRETARY FOR NATIONAL LAMB FEEDERS ASSOCIATION

Verlon Welch, Montevideo, Minnesota, has been selected as the permanent secretary of the National Lamb Feeders Association organized last fall. He brings to the position considerable experience in animal husbandry and organization and journalistic work. Headquarters office of the feeder association is to be in Denver.

### RESEALING PROGRAM FOR FARM-STORED HAY, PASTURE, AND RANGE SEED

The Production and Marketing Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, March 15th, announced that Commodity Credit Corporation loans on farm-stored 1950-crop hay, pasture, and range grass seed will be extended for another

year, and that loans will also be made available for 1950-crop hay, pasture, and range grass seeds now covered by purchase agreements.

#### FARM STORAGE URGED TO AID BOXCAR SHORTAGE

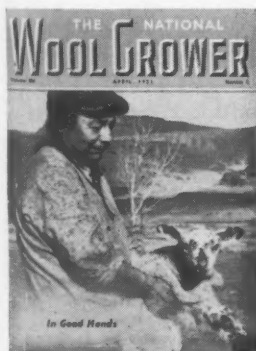
Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan on March 15th asked farmers to increase further their farm grain storage facilities as a means of easing the pressure for scarce boxcars during the coming grain harvest season. At present the average daily boxcar shortage is 24,500.

#### TRUCKER CHARGED IN SHEEP SCABIES CASE

The Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association is assisting, through the employment of M. C. Blackburn as a special aid to County Attorney A. W. Searcy, in the prosecution of a case filed against a trucker for the alleged transportation of scabby sheep over a public highway and privately owned land.

The trucker, Les Noble, it is charged, brought 232 scabby sheep from a section of De Ridder, Louisiana, that is under scab quarantine. Under Texas law a penalty of from \$1 to \$5 a head may be exacted in cases of this kind and in this instance the State is asking that the limit be given. The sheep were purchased by Ben Dehert of Junction, Texas, who did not know they were scab-infested.

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YOU GET THE BEST AT THE  
NATIONAL RAM SALE  
AUGUST 20-21, 1951  
NORTH SALT LAKE, UTAH  
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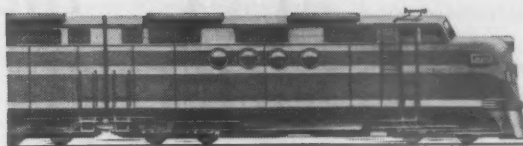
#### THE COVER

"In Good Hands" seems to tell its own story. Miss Mary MacLennan, Ellensburg, Washington, is the photographer.

*"He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."—Isaiah 40:11*

April, 1951

# Today



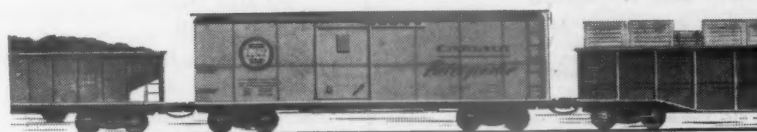
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Volume XLI

APRIL, 1951

Number 4

414 PACIFIC NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING, SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

TELEPHONE NO. 3-4483

J. M. JONES

EDITORS

IRENE YOUNG

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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members \$5.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103. Act of October 8, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.

# Producers Not Represented

IS there a fundamental underlying reason why the producer of domestic strategic raw materials such as wool and lamb is not permitted representation in the development of long-range plans and regulations affecting the industry?

The fact remains they have not been permitted representation in the capacity of consultants or as members of advisory committees of the Office of Price Stabilization, National Production Authority, or the International Wool Commodity Conference.

Formal requests have long since been made to the heads of all agencies in question. Regarding wool the OPS says: "In the interest of expediency, an advisory committee from the Woolen and Worsted Industry has been selected from an approved list prepared by the National Production Authority. This Committee is working diligently on drafting an order . . . Problems such as yours are being given careful consideration. The assistance which your Association can give this agency is most important and desired. . . ."

The fact is we have no representation on this Committee. It is composed of twenty manufacturers, topmakers and foreign wool buyers.

Title VII, Section 701 (A) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 states that in order to carry out the policy of this Act "such business advisory committees shall be appointed as shall be appropriate for purposes of consultation in the formulation of rules, regulations, or orders, or amendments thereto issued under authority of this Act, and in their formation there shall be fair representation for independent small, for medium, and for large business enterprises, for different geographical areas, for trade association members and non-members, and for different segments of the industry." In Mr. DiSalle's-PPR.2 announcing Advisory Committees, Section 5 states: "The Director of Price Stabilization shall select the members of each Industry Advisory Committee in a way to assure fair representation . . . for trade association members and non-members and for different segments . . . of industry affected."

This is the law but they are giving this industry the "run-around." It is a known fact that Kenneth W. Marriner, a dollar-a-year man in the last war and president of Francis Willey & Co.—a foreign wool importer—recommended ceilings on domestically produced wool, with everyone realiz-

## ACTIVITIES OF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President Steiwer's schedule for March included attendance at a meat industry conference in Chicago on the 19th where price controls were discussed. He also met with a group considering transportation matters in Chicago on the 19th.

Executive Secretary Jones arrived at the Hotel Congressional, Washington, D. C., on March 23rd where he will remain for some time watching over growers' interests at the Nation's capital.

ing price ceilings could not be placed on foreign wool.

This is a case of some segments of an industry recommending action on another segment. Foreign wool importers didn't get the job done this time, but it is not too improbable that before long our Government may begin subsidizing foreign wool producers. That would be the usual procedure for the State Department.

Speaking of the State Department, they have charge of a new international scheme, called the International Commodity Conference. This is broken down into commodity committees for each of ten strategic materials. There are two agricultural commodities involved in this group—wool and cotton.

The International Wool Committee is scheduled to meet in Washington, D.C., on April 2, 1951. It is to be composed of two U. S. governmental officials (both probably from the Department of Agriculture) and two from each of the other ten participating countries. The purposes of the Committee are not too clear, but it is announced that allocation studies will be made, along with production, distribution and other problems.

A personal interview with a State Department official reveals that the negotiations will be carried on at a "high level" and no one interested in what actually happens to the production of the raw material will be permitted to attend, only the government officials from the various countries involved.

Provision has been made for laymen ad-

visory committees but there is nothing sure about when or who will be asked to advise with the government members.

The Committee, if and when any conclusions have been reached, will recommend to the Government the action that they feel is proper. It would appear that these recommendations from the standpoint of the United States will be made to the so-called Foster Committee (Mr. Foster is director of the Economic Cooperation Administration and at the present time an assistant to Mr. Chas. E. Wilson of the Defense Mobilization Authority).

In other words producers of raw materials should increase production, but the Bureaus will tell you how much will be paid and how it will be distributed.

In the maze of confusion in OPS in Washington, D.C., the writer was inquiring as to when ceiling price regulations were going to be written for lamb. The answer was to the effect that live hog, cattle and calf ceiling regulations would be written first and then lamb. When asked who would prepare the orders, the reply was a consultant of OPS (an employee of the Department of Agriculture and formerly with OPA), a packer, and an assistant chief of the Meat Branch of OPS.

Quoting from the statement of Senator Allen J. Ellender, Chairman, Agriculture and Forestry Committee, U. S. Senate: "It is high time, ladies and gentlemen, that something drastic is done to arrest the inroads of bureaucratic control."

—J. M. (Casey) Jones

## More About International Wool Conference

ELSEWHERE in this issue is a brief discussion of the International Wool Committee which is to meet in Washington on April 2nd and on which there is no producer representation.

It is interesting to note the address of the President of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, Bradford, England, when in discussing the International Wool Committee meetings to be held in Washington, he wonders "if instead of holding interminable conferences on the supply and distribution of wool, it would not be better to make more determined efforts to increase production," and suggests "that Government policies might be directed towards en-

couraging growers to produce more wool." We are in complete accord with that point of view.

Certainly, this is a sound practical statement of the problem. What good will it do for Government officials who have no practical knowledge of wool production to

spend many weeks and possibly months discussing a question to which only increased production will give the answer? It's about time for Government officials to get off the theoretical basis, take producers into their confidence, and work for the answers to the problems confronting us.

## ***S.1149 Proposes BLM Transfer to Dept. of Agriculture***

ON March 15th some 18 bills to make effective various recommendations of the Hoover Commission's report on the reorganization of the executive branch of the Government were introduced in the Senate. S.1149, covering the reorganization of the Department of Agriculture, calls (Section 7) for the transfer, among other things, of all "functions of the Bureau of Land Management (except as respects mining and mineral resources) and the functions of the Secretary of the Interior in relation thereto" from the Interior Department to the Secretary of Agriculture. In stockmen's language this means the consolidation of the administration of the Taylor Grazing Districts and the administration of grazing in the Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture.

Section 6 of the proposed measure authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to group all of the functions of this Department "at the seat of Government" into eight major administrative services: 1. Staff Service; 2. Research Service; 3. Agricultural Consultation Service; 4. Agricultural Resources Conservation Service; 5. Commodity Marketing and Adjustment Service; 6. Regulatory Service; 7. Agricultural Credit Service; 8. Rural Electrification Service.

The Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service, if the procedure recommended by the Hoover Commission is carried out, would be administered by the Agricultural Resources Conservation Service.

The major portion of the bill relates to the organization of State and county agricultural councils whose function would be to "administer at State and local levels the programs of the Agricultural Resources Conservation Service and the Commodity Marketing and Adjustment Service" . . . "and programs of the Department relating to the work of the Agricultural Resources Conservation Service and the Commodity Marketing and Adjustment Service shall be administered with the approval of the appropriate State agricultural councils."

(Under the proposed act the present local, county and State agricultural committees would be abolished.)

Membership of these councils would include actual farmers. Five farmers elected by farmers would compose the county agricultural council and the State council of eleven members would include six selected by the county agricultural council chairmen from among their number and would have as ex officio members the State Secretary of Agriculture, the directors of the State Agricultural Experiment Station and the State Agricultural Extension Service, the chairman of the State Soil Conservation Committee and the head of the State Conservation Department.

Just what power these agricultural councils would actually have, of course, remains to be seen. As expressed by the Hoover Commission report, they would be "advisory" and while all programs would be presented to and considered by them, they would not have "veto" power.

Contained in S.1149 also is provision for the transfer to the Department of Agriculture of the Agricultural Education Service and the Home Economics Education Service and the functions relating to them from the Federal Security Agency and the Commissioner of Education.

Personnel will be transferred with the division or bureau for which they are now working but if an excess of employees develops, they may be moved to another position or "separated from the service." If it becomes law, this measure will be designated as the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1951.

S.1143 is the number of the bill relating to the reorganization of the Department of the Interior. If enacted it will be known as the Department of the Interior Reorganization Act of 1951.

Under it the Secretary of the Interior would establish four services: (1) Water Development and Use Service; (2) Building Construction Service; (3) Mineral Resources Service and (4) Recreation Service, under which the administration of

public parks, monuments, wildlife and game fisheries would fall.

The functions of all other agencies fitting into these proposed four services would be transferred under S.1143 to the Interior Department.

The 18 measures dealing with reorganization were introduced in groups by different senators but the following joined in sponsoring most of the bills: Senators Aiken, O'Connor, McCarthy, Taft, Ferguson, Smith of New Jersey, Lodge, Douglas, Benton, Duff, Saltonstall, Ives, Dirksen, and McClellan.

About 50 percent of the Hoover Commission's recommendations have already been put into effect, but there has been considerable hesitancy to push others, because they were controversial. The sponsoring senators have recognized that factor in introducing the bills which if enacted, will carry out the remainder of the report; some of them have frankly stated they do not favor all of the provisions of the bills and reserve the right to offer amendments, etc.

The purpose of introducing the bills as stated by Senator McClellan is "to get before the Congress all the proposals of the Hoover Commission in order that Congress may have an opportunity to study them to the end there may be enacted into law all the recommendations which are found to be advisable, which have merit and which we think would carry out the general objectives of bringing about greater efficiency and economy in government."

The bills, with one or two exceptions, were referred to the Senate Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments; it is assumed, however, that S.1143 and 1149 will be turned over to the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of both the House and Senate.

## ***New F.S. Bills***

**H.R.** 2999 "to facilitate the administration of the national forests, to provide for the orderly use, improvement and development thereof, to stabilize the livestock industry dependent thereon," was introduced in the House by Congressman Lind of Pennsylvania on February 20th and an identical bill (S. 1001) was put in the Senate hopper by Senator Aiken of Vermont on March 1st. This is a Forest Service sponsored measure and not the bill on which the Stockmen's Grazing Committee has been working.

# Washington Observations

March 23, 1951

## C.C.C. WOOL PURCHASES

THE Commodity Credit Corporation announced on March 13th that they had quit purchasing wools for the Quartermaster General. They have purchased, nearly as can be found out, although it has not been announced, approximately 7 million pounds out of the 30 million clean pounds that they were supposed to purchase for a reserve. The balance is to be purchased in the form of fabrics. That will mean that the fabric purchases will amount to the 30 million pounds plus the 70 million pounds or a total of 100 million pounds as provided by the special appropriation, because it is figured that the 7 million clean pounds which they have already purchased will be speedily converted into goods.

The Advisory Committee of the National Production Authority met in Washington on March 21st. There has been great demand for the allocation of wools. This advisory committee, however, opposed allocation as not being necessary because the defense was getting all that they needed. Apparently the National Production Authority has given up the idea of allocating wool; in other words, what might be called a conservation order.

This discussion of allocation will be one of the principal subjects at the International Wool Conference opening here on April 2nd. Other countries have the various segments of the industry on their committees, but in the U. S. only Government officials, such as those in State, Agriculture, Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations and the Munitions Board, will sit in. There is very little policy as yet developed for the April 2nd hearing and in the judgment of the writer it is rather doubtful that anything startling will come from these meetings at least at present and perhaps for some time to come. J. B. Wilson and I attended a meeting today with U.S.D.A. officials for an open discussion of the questions which might properly come before the International Conference. It is felt they still have a plan in mind, at least for discussion, of allocation and also Government control sometime in the future.

## WOOL PRICE CEILINGS

On March 22nd the wool trade, topmakers and pullers met with officials in the

Office of Price Stabilization and proposed ceiling prices on wool. Mr. Wilson represented the growers. He took the position that although wool prices seemed high he was opposed to a ceiling because there was no way to enforce ceilings on foreign wool and the result would be that other countries would get the wool by just paying slightly above the ceiling prices established by our Government. This has already happened in the case of lead, copper and some other strategic materials.

However, the OPS is determined to have price ceilings on everything, it appears at this time. The committee working on ceiling prices set up a scale as follows, on a clean basis:

70's staple	\$4.12	58's staple	\$3.65
70's average	3.91	58's average	3.55
64's staple	3.89	56's staple	3.41
64's average	3.80	56's average	3.37
64's French-combing	3.74	50's staple	3.31
62's staple	3.83	50's short	
62's average	3.74	knitting	3.28
60's staple	3.75	46's average	2.96
60's average	3.70	44's	2.40
		40's	2.30

They suggested a 20 percent reduction for black and grey wool. In the case of wool tops the ceilings proposed are \$4.69 for 64's short dry-combed and \$4.80 on 64's warped. It should be remembered that these prices are suggested to OPS. There is no assurance that they will accept them and the ceiling may be set lower. Prices proposed are 8 to 10 percent below replacement costs of wool at this time. No one can predict how soon the order may come out. If it is out within three weeks, it will be a miracle. It should, of course, come out in a week, but as OPS is not speedy, it will probably not be out by that time, if it is accepted. Please remember that these are only suggested prices at topmakers', dealers' and wool pullers' levels.

There is a feeling on the part of OPS, manufacturers, topmakers and others that wool prices will soften. This came as the result of an announcement on March 22nd by the defense authorities that they had placed all the orders they would place up to July 1. Of course, it will be remembered that defense orders are not subject to the ceiling. This exemption, of course, expires April 1st, but they have apparently ful-

filled all of the orders they intend to make under this present appropriation. With the exception of Messrs. Wilson and C. J. Fawcett everyone at the meeting seemed to be in favor of ceilings and some of the topmakers and manufacturers are still insisting that they should be placed on wool.

A month or six weeks ago the bankers in Bradford, England, told the wool buyers that wool prices were too high. Just recently, however, the bankers in Bradford have changed their minds and are advising that as much wool as possible be purchased without too much concern over the price. Therefore, the Perth, Australian, sale was at higher levels. So you have two schools of thought.

There are reports that there are ample supplies of goods in this country and presently these goods are selling at below cost and much less than replacement costs. Sales of wool have been reported as made at \$4.00 clean for civilian use. It's impossible to see how they could afford to buy at this price, although there are no ceilings on military fabrics and there are no ceilings as yet at the producer level. The situation continues to be a confused one, both on the wool ceilings and on the manufacturers' ceilings.

## CEILINGS ON LIVE ANIMALS

Ceilings on live hogs were expected to have been out by this time, and of course, it is known that cattle ceilings are under preparation. It now appears that the cattle order is at least a month off. It is apparent that the OPS is not profiting by the mistakes of its predecessor, the OPA. In any event, they are having the same difficulties, although the OPS is staffed by many former OPAers.

## LAMB GRADES

New lamb grades, according to the Department of Agriculture, will be announced to become effective possibly around May 1st. At the present time there is no compulsory grading on any meat but the Department of Agriculture has been alerted to prepare for compulsory grading when OPS asks for it. It is hoped that the new lamb grades will be in effect prior to the definitive ceilings.—J. M. Jones

## 1951 Wool Support Program Announced

**I**F through any unforeseen emergency, price support is necessary for wool production in 1951, it will average 90 percent of the parity price of wool on March 15, 1951, the Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, stated on that date; the dollars-and-cents levels of support are to be announced before April 1st. It will be recalled the Agricultural Act of 1949 requires that the price support of wool be between 60 and 90 percent of parity and at a level needed to encourage an annual production of approximately 360 million pounds of shorn wool. As production is below that point the support is fixed at 90 percent of parity.

Since early in 1950 wool prices have ranged above 90 percent of parity, and no wool was purchased under the program last year and all stocks purchased prior to 1950 have been sold, the PMA states.

The program for the current year (April, 1951 through March, 1952) will be similar to that for last year. As in 1950 producers, if the program is necessary, will have the right to decide after appraisal whether or not they want to sell their wool under the program. Prices for the individual types and grades of wool will also reflect present wool market price relationships as in last year. One change has been made in the program: Purchases will be limited to wool owned by producers; after the producer has sold his wool it will not be purchased under the program.

### Mohair Support Program

The price support for mohair during 1951, if necessary, will be at 74.1 percent of parity on March 15, 1951. This level of support is considered comparable to that for wool, according to the PMA, on the basis of the relationship between prices for the two commodities during the last several years. The mohair support program is similar to that for wool.

## Livestock Group Confers With OPS

**F**OLLOWING a Chicago meeting of various segments of the livestock industry on March 19th, including President Steiwer of the National Wool Growers Association, a representative committee went on to Washington to confer with Michael V. DiSalle, Director of the Office of Price Stabilization, that same week.

## Living Memorial to John A. Hill

**P**LANs for a living memorial to John A. Hill, Vice President of University of Wyoming and former Dean of its College of Agriculture, are being shaped up in Wyoming by the appointment of a scholarship fund committee. A. E. Bowman, director of the Wyoming Agricultural Extension Service, has been named chairman of the committee with the following members: R. H. Burns, University Wool Department head; Oda Mason, Laramie cattleman and past president of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association; Eldon Keith, Kaycee, master of the Wyoming State Grange; Harold Josendal, Casper, prominent agricultural college graduate and president of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association; Kleber Hadsell, Rawlins, past president of the Wyoming Farm Bureau and chairman of its Livestock Committee; and Herbert J. King, Laramie, Bureau president from 1923 to 1948 and member of the Advisory Council of the Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station.

The income from the fund is to be used for agricultural students at the University of Wyoming with outstanding achievements. Dean Hill had expressed the wish that no floral tributes be sent to his funeral but that a project be established in his memory and it is felt there are many persons whom Dean Hill befriended who will welcome the opportunity to contribute to this perpetual monument in his honor. Contributions should be sent to the John A. Hill Memorial Scholarship Fund in care of H. M. Briggs, Dean, College of Agriculture, Laramie, Wyoming.

After presenting their opposition to price controls on livestock, because they create shortages and black markets, the livestockmen urged that if ceilings on livestock were to be set up, they be high enough to cause as little disruption in the industry as possible. They advocated that no ceilings be placed on lambs on account of their scarcity. Due to light supplies prices paid for live lambs, it was pointed out, would be controlled by any ceilings placed on cattle and hogs.

Late reports, however, are that the OPS is proceeding with the writing of the ceiling price order on live hogs and cattle and there is some talk of rollbacks. DiSalle is quoted as wanting this action for the "psychological" effect on consumers, thinking it may quiet their persistent clamor that something be done about food prices.

The livestock group also talked the meat control situation over with western members of Congress. Whether or not their activities will have the desired effect remains to be seen. Combined with the opposition of various other groups, including labor, general farm products and cotton in particular, it may lead to the desired results eventually.

A happy note was struck on March 22nd by the announcement that the meat handlers' strike had been halted through an appeal by President William Green of the AFL. He urged delay to prevent disruption of the conference between labor union leaders and defense mobilization officials then in progress in Washington in an attempt to solve the wage control problem.

## Admission of Basque Herders

**W**HEN S. 728, the companion bill to H. R. 2339, which passed the House on February 19th, came up for consideration in the Senate on March 14th it was passed with amendment. This made it necessary to send the bill to conference committee, and back to the House for approval of the amendment. However, House approval was given on March 20th and the President signed the bill March 28th. This measure clarifies the language of the Internal Security Act or Subversive Activities Control Act of 1950 so that aliens whose affiliation with subversive organizations was involuntary (forced through economic or other factors) may be permitted to enter the United States.

## Price Control Difficulties

**P**RIce controls are running into heavy going. The difficulty with the labor leaders who withdrew from official posts in the mobilization program is not yet settled (March 22) and the cotton growers have gathered their forces—they have considerable strength—to fight the order which placed ceilings on cotton prices at the producer level. Bills have already been introduced in Congress providing for the exemption of cotton from price controls. Should any one commodity such as cotton be given preferential treatment, producers of other commodities would immediately clamor for similar consideration and the price program would be lost.

# In Memoriam . . . John A. Hill . . . 1880-1951

WOOL growers, animal husbandmen and the wool textile industry of the United States were deeply shocked to learn of the death on March 10, 1951, of John A. Hill, Vice president and Dean of the College of Agriculture, Emeritus, of the University of Wyoming.

Dean Hill was born near Carrollton, Ohio, June 10, 1880, the son of James Rose and Mary Marshall Hill. He was graduated from the University of Wyoming with the B.S. degree in 1907 with an academic record that resulted in an immediate invitation to join the faculty of the institution to which he devoted his life. The business of wool growing was recognized as one of the most important sources of income in Wyoming agriculture and Hill was assigned the task of investigating the subject.

One of his first steps after receiving his appointment was to spend several months at the Philadelphia Textile School where he acquainted himself with all the processes that the wool fiber undergoes in its conversion into the many types of fabrics and articles that man needs. He then returned to Laramie to start his investigations into problems of the producer.

He was the first to show how closely the welfare of the grower is linked with moisture changes in wool. This work was done by taking a series of samples across the country and weighing them in various conditions of humidity and temperature. He extracted the wool grease, the suint (dried perspiration) and showed how each of these major extraneous substances compared with the clean scoured fiber in its ability to absorb and give up atmospheric moisture.

He was among the first to discern that shrinkage plays an unusually important role in Wyoming wools and very early in his career persuaded the University to install a scouring plant that would enable him to test the shrinkage of samples from various sections of the State and put fleece weights on a clean basis. With the apparatus he also ran the first impartial tests on the durability and solubility of the sheep marking fluids then on the market.

His work on the strength of wool was one of the earliest research projects of its kind in this country.

He was the first to study the density of wool fiber population per unit area of skin



Dean John A. Hill

surface on the living animal and devised the method of calculating the number of fibers in a sample by weighing only a small fraction of it on a delicate balance under controlled conditions. This work was the forerunner of all the data that has been collected since that time and paved the way for the invention of improved instruments by Julius E. Nordby, Robert H. Burns and others.

John Hill's practical method of culling sheep for improving average fleece weight in a band became a criterion that is still widely followed by others. Working in cooperation with the Warren Livestock Company of Cheyenne, he demonstrated how to detect low producers and as a result of following this method over a period of years, Mr. Warren's average fleece weight was raised between two and three pounds.

In 1922 the University of Wyoming, in recognition of his work as a thinker and planner, made him Director of the Experiment Station, and in 1923 he became Dean of the College of Agriculture. He was elected chairman of the Board of Deans and for a time was Acting President of the University.

Dean Hill was showered with well-deserved honors in recognition of his ser-

vices to his institution and to western agriculture. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Pappa Phi, Epsilon Sigma Phi, Sigma Xi, and Alpha Zeta, all honorary scholastic and professional fraternities, a consultant in animal husbandry to the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, member of the National Wool Advisory Board of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Colorado-Wyoming Academy of Sciences, one-time president of the American Society of Animal Production, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

In collaboration with Dr. Frederick S. Hultz he wrote the text "Range Sheep and Wool," widely used by students and growers.

Recognized among his friends and associates as a leader of thought with an uncanny ability to put his finger quickly on the heart of a problem he was also known for an original and pungent wit that could rock a roomfull of sheepmen or college presidents.

He is survived by his wife, Evelyn Corthell Hill, his four sons, Robert, John, Ross and Nellis, and a daughter Sally.

The finest monument that will be erected to John Hill's memory is one he created himself. It consists of the pride others take in having known him; of the stimulation he provided for his students, the meritorious service he rendered his University and his State. Marc Anthony, in delivering Caesar's funeral oration, said, "The evil that men do lives after them; the good is oft interred with their bones." In John Hill's case the good he did will live after him. He knew no evil.

"For some we loved, the loveliest and best

That from his vintage rolling time hath pressed

Have drunk their cup a round or two before

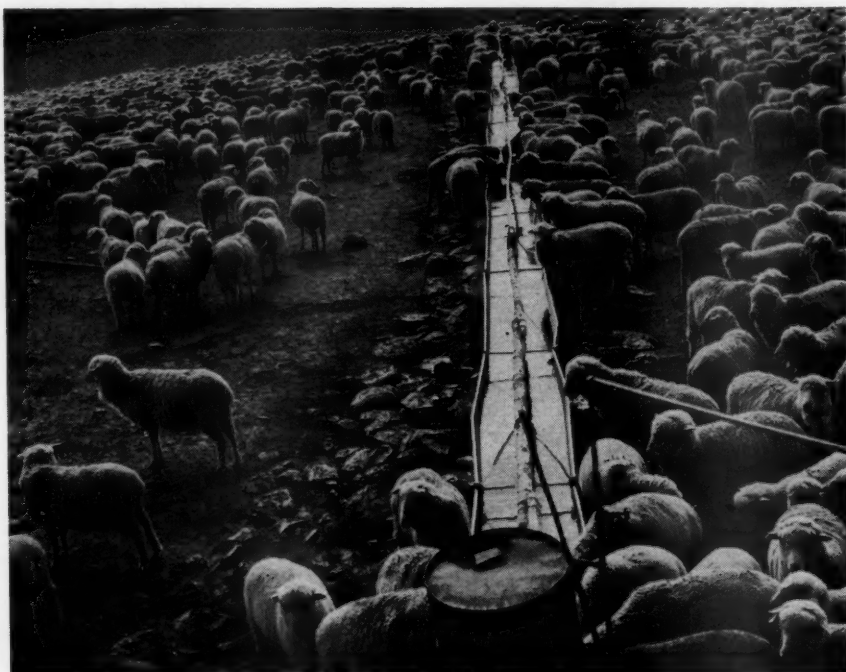
And one by one crept silently to rest."

—Omar Khayyam

(Tribute by one of Dean Hill's former students.)

# On the Other Side of the Fence

By MILT MANGUM  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration



Well and water trough developed on the Hadsell sheep ranch under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

**A**BOUT 20 miles west of Rawlins, Wyoming, there is a sheep fence that parallels U. S. 30 for six miles. It is a good fence. The 32-inch galvanized net and two strands of barbed wire are strung on sturdy cedar posts reinforced by steel posts in between.

This fence marks the southern boundary of the Rochelle Sheep Company range; to the north and west there is more fencing. Altogether there is 28 miles of fencing on this range. Northwest on the Kleber Hadsell range there is another 20 miles of fencing.

Outside these fences, as far as the eye can see, it's sheep country and the sheep are herded as they have been for thousands of years. The shepherd and his dog go out with the herd at daybreak. The sheep are allowed to spread out and feed, but if any of them stray too far they are turned back—often vigorously by sending the dog after them. As evening comes on, the sheep are gathered into the bed ground. As one area is fed off, the sheep are moved to another.

Inside the fence it's a little different. The sheep feed where they will. There is no attempt to hold the herd together. They

graze in small flocks, or two or three in a place. There is no herder or dog to keep turning these sheep back to the herd. Mov-

ing is reduced to a minimum. There is less competition for forage.

With defense activities stepping up the demand for wool and meat, there is an added significance to these fences. Both Kleber H. Hadsell and Curtis Rochelle believe a whole new frontier of range management is opening up. Hadsell claims double the production he used to get from open range herding. Rochelle says for him it's about half again as much.

Here are some of the advantages seen by these two well-known Rawlins sheepmen:

There is less need to move the sheep. There is no necessity for turning or driving as with open range herding. This means that more of the feed goes to produce wool and meat. Less is used up by travel.

The wool is cleaner. Rochelle claims a reduction of from 3 to 5 percent in shrinkage. When sheep are turned or driven there is usually a dust stirred up. A lot of this dust settles back on the sheep.

Less of the feed is trampled out. As sheep are turned or driven over the range, their hoofs cut out small seedlings of grass and other palatable vegetation. Held together as a herd, there is more of this than when the sheep are allowed to feed where they will.



Curtis Rochelle (right) and Tom Rennard, PMA farmer-fieldman with one of the stock-water ponds developed under ACP in the background.



Partition fence on the Rochelle range. On this fence the steel posts were not used as on some of the fences on this range.

The herder problem is less acute than on the open range. This is especially important as the draft and defense industry take more and more of the manpower of the country. About all that is needed is a man to keep the fences up, while keeping an eye on the sheep.

Kleber Hadsell, whose range is about 40 miles west of Rawlins, started fencing his range about 4 years ago. He now has about 12 sections under fence. Last year in one 800-acre pasture he carried 1,000 ewes through the breeding season in excellent condition. His lambing has gone up to about 90 percent as compared with 70 percent before fencing.

His interest in fencing was stimulated by an experiment he carried on back in 1930 in cooperation with Dr. O. A. Beath of the University of Wyoming. In this experiment it was found that two-year-old ewes did much better when allowed to feed at will under fence than when herded on the range. The ewes inside the fence gained weight under very bad snow conditions while those on the open range—with less snow—lost weight.

The Agricultural Conservation Program provided the needed incentive to get the fencing job under way, by sharing the cost of the fence.

Also, with the help of the ACP, Hadsell has developed stockwater facilities for his sheep. With wells and reservoirs properly spaced, he can graze his range without having to drive his sheep. This improved distribution means conservation of both soil and water.

Now, Hadsell is giving serious thought to pasturing a few cattle along with his sheep, since cattle eat western wheatgrass which is plentiful on his range, while sheep do not touch it except when forced to by lack of other feed.

The Red Desert, where the Hadsell and Rochelle ranges are located has quite a lot of bud sage, greasewood, winter fat, brown sage, black sage, shadscale, and salt sage in addition to a number of good grasses.

Curtis Rochelle started fencing about the same time as Hadsell. He now has about 28 miles of fence and expects to have 40 miles when the project is completed. The township he is fencing will be divided into seven or eight pastures.

Also, with the help of the ACP, he has developed watering places for his sheep. He has 17 reservoirs and pits and 3 wells. Five of the reservoirs have never been dry since they were built several years ago.

With water readily available, his fencing is paying off. He had one band of 800

head of sheep on part of this range from May 20 to September 20 without a herder. At the end of the season he was only 9 short of the number turned in at the beginning. He lost no lambs. In less than 90 days, lambs weighed 70 pounds.

When completed, Rochelle estimates the fence will cost about \$22,000. But he points out that with three bands of sheep on the open range he has to hire 3 herders and 3 camp tenders. Wages and keep amount to about \$200 per man a month. That's \$1200 a month, or \$14,400 a year. Of course fencing will not eliminate these expenses, but it will reduce them more than half.

By keeping down trespassing and proper-

ly grazing his range, the forage is being built up instead of going down hill. By controlling grazing its productivity is being maintained.

Both Rochelle and Hadsell look upon the assistance provided under ACP as a national investment in the welfare of the country rather than any personal grant to the individual. As they see it, the funds used for carrying out soil and water conservation practices are protecting the interests of the folks in cities as well as the farmers and ranchers. The returns on the investment are increased production, assurance of continued abundance, and a stronger and healthier nation.

## Is Criticism of Farm Prices Justified?

WITH so much complaint about prices of food, farmers and prices of farm products have come in for a vast amount of criticism. That this isn't justified is asserted by Secretary of Agriculture Brannan in a letter to the Joint Congressional Committee on Defense Production, dated February 8th. Excerpts follow:

"A number of recent public statements have created the impression that agricultural commodity prices are unreasonably or disproportionately high in relation to prices of other consumer goods or to wages or to the farmer's costs. This impression is not warranted by the facts.

"Other statements indicate that food prices are exempted from price control. This also is not true. On the contrary, the food products now included in the freeze order represent about 40 percent of the total food cost in the Bureau of Labor Statistics consumers' price index.

"Still other statements seek to show that farmers have been given special or privileged treatment in the laws and regulations providing for inflation control. Again this is not true.

"The purpose of this statement is not to deny the prices of some foods and farm commodities have substantially increased but rather to show where they really stand in our economy of general prosperity and full employment.

"It is true, of course, that prices received by farmers for many commodities have risen in recent months and are now high in relation to their own history but the same is true of most other raw and finished goods. For example, since the Korean outbreak, tin has gone up more than 138 percent, aluminum over 78 percent, lead near-

ly 50 percent, chemicals about 27 percent, and textiles 32 percent. In the same period, prices received by farmers have advanced 21 percent.

"Prices received by farmers have still not reached their previous record level, while farmers' costs have gone up on to new record heights. On the other hand, corporate profits, wages, and average personal incomes are setting new records.

"Much has been made of the fact that the farm commodities selling below parity are free to rise and thus increase the cost of living before becoming subject to control. But if all farm commodities now below parity should reach the parity level, consumer food costs would rise less than 5 percent, and this would mean less than a 2 percent rise in the over-all cost of living.

"As of January 15, prices received by farmers were still 2 percent below the January 1948 peak. While receiving lower prices, farmers had to continue paying high prices, with the result that their net realized income went down 3 years in a row.

"No other major segment of our economy went through such a severe economic setback. In fact, corporate profits after taxes, following a small decline, have gone on up to new records and are now running about 32 percent above the 1947 rate. For 1950 as a whole they were 18 percent above 1947. Wages have gradually risen, and hourly earnings of factory workers in 1950 were 18 percent above the 1947 level."

# Weathering of Wool

By GURBAX SINGH MAHAL and R. H. BURNS  
Wool Department, University of Wyoming

*The Wool Department of the University of Wyoming has always drawn to it students from the far corners of the earth. One such was Mr. Gurbax Singh Mahal. "Mr. Mahal," Dr. Burns, head of the Wyoming U's Wool Department, writes, "made one of the finest scholastic records of any graduate student at Wyoming." When Mr. Mahal concluded his course at Wyoming he left three papers for publication. One of them, "The Effect of Weather and Soil on Wool," Dr. Burns has put into less technical language for the Wool Grower. Mr. Mahal has now returned to India where he is employed by the Indian Government.*

**E**NVIRONMENT has a very important role in determining the quality of fleeces which is well illustrated by the differences in fleeces grown in different countries under a variety of geographical and climatic conditions which show the effects due to these conditions.

One of the first published statements concerning the relationship between wool growth and quality to environment was reported by Youatt (1) who stated that about 1776 a Dr. Anderson noticed that the diameters of wool fibers were greater when grown under high temperatures. This result has been confirmed by different workers since that time.

Weathering of the tips of the fleeces varies in different localities and is more pronounced in dry, windy ranges with a percentage of alkali dust. The back portion of the fleece is more exposed and hence suffers more weathering than portions of the fleece growing in less exposed areas, like on the belly. Harsh weathered fleeces lacking in yolk with open staples and a rough, "brashy" feel are produced on some ranges of the western United States. Tippy fleeces come from New Zealand, "canary" or yellow-stained wools come from some parts of Australia and South Africa and harsh, dry and brittle wools from some hot and dry areas of India: all show the effects of weathering and oxidizing of the wool by sunlight and other factors such as rain, heat, humidity, wind, frost and soil conditions. The extent of damage also depends upon the growth and nature of the fleece. Sheep with an open fleece have a greater proportion of length in the staple which is more exposed to the weather than those fleeces with a finer and denser wool.

## Weathering of Wool

Weathering of wool has been recognized from earliest times. During the time when Rome was going through her Imperial

Glory and the Apulia locality of Italy produced the finest wool in the world, the breeders protected their sheep by covering them with skins and other materials in order to produce a soft and beautiful fleece noted for its waviness, velvety feel and glossiness.

## Two Types of Coats

Two types of coats are produced by sheep under natural conditions and primitive and semi-primitive sheep always show these two coats; the coarse, outer-coat and the fine under-coat. The function of the outer-coat is to protect the under-coat from injuries due to weather and other difficult environmental conditions. The improved breeds of sheep have eliminated the outer-coat through selective breeding although vestiges of this coarse coat "crop" out in many of the improved breeds and types of sheep as indicated by the "pants" and "beards" one sees on some sheep. Thus the improved breeds of sheep with their fleeces made up entirely of the finer under-coat fibers are more susceptible to weathering than the mixed-wool fleeces of primitive sheep in which the outer-coat protects the under-coat. Speakman and McMahon (2) made a study of the effect of light on wool and found that the fine fibers suffer more than the coarse ones. The degree of damage may vary from a slight harshness to a complete breakdown of the structural molecule of the fiber. The weathering of the fleece has attracted but little attention among wool producers, although the tests of sheep coats or rugs in Australia, South Africa and the United States have attracted considerable attention due primarily to the fact that publicity agents and the average layman were intrigued with the idea of a sheep with a natural coat of wool wearing a cotton coat on top of the natural wool coat to give further protection. The results of these tests with sheep coats in the

United States and sheep rugs, so-called, in Australia, have shown generally that protection of the fleeces does improve the amount and handling properties of the fleeces.

## Responsible Factors

The factors responsible for weathering are generally atmospheric ones, such as the sun, heat, rain, air, frost, humidity, and the nature of the soil which gains entrance to the fleeces and affects the nutrition of the sheep through the plants grown on the soil and eaten by the sheep. There is little detailed information in the literature concerning the individual effect of each of these factors but the cumulative effect of all of them is well known.

## Rain

Rain affects the wool as indicated by the tippy wool which comes from high rainfall areas. The tippy wool shows a slender, wispy and straggly appearance. The fibers are frequently fused and matted together and are some times stained with a pinkish tint and when handled are harsh and brittle to the touch. Speakman and McMahon (3) have shown that there is an increase in the "soluble nitrogen" of the wool fibers as a result of weathering due to irradiation. Rain results in a leaching action on this substance and the fiber structure and strength are affected. Experiments conducted at the Government Livestock Farm, Hissar (India) revealed that repeated washings of fleeces make the wool harsh and brittle and the close-knit staple formation is lost and the staples become tangled and stringy. Repeated washing of three experimental sheep on one side while the other side was left unwashed revealed these marked differences of the fleece on each of the sides. The wool growing on the "washed" side appeared weak, stringy and brittle. It has been no-



Nature has provided lush summer feed necessary for the proper nutrition of the flock in this National Forest.—U. S. Forest Service Photo

ticed that when the Blackfaced Highland sheep of the Lanarkshire type (Scotland) bred in Dumfriesshire are taken to Renfrewshire, a rainier district, their progeny soon show on their backs the thick, close-set, "foggy" wool which protects the skin from rain water. When sheep move from wet to drier areas, their fleeces grow longer and more open. A condition known as "dumpy wool" is reported from South Africa. It occurs in seasons of high rainfall, especially when accompanied by high humidity and temperatures. Other conditions in the fleece such as "wool rot" are associated with high rainfalls and a bacterial and or fungous infection which thrives under wet conditions. The wool covering the back, withers and sides is most often affected. The condition is indicated by a greyish-yellow band of matted wool one-eighth to one-half inches wide at a level in the fleece corresponding with the period when the inflammatory process (infection) occurred. The condition may recur with a return of similar climatic and infection conditions and then another colored band will occur closer to the skin than the first due to the natural growth of the wool. Some of the organisms responsible for the development of "wool rot" produce pigments which discolor the wool and the fleece may be colored green, yellow, blue, red, brown, violet and black. The discoloration is usually confined to the matted bands but may be diffused throughout the greater portion of the staple, extending almost to the tip.

How weathering affects the wool fiber has been reported by various workers who found that weathering is chiefly shown in

a change of the sulfur content of the wool which results in a weakening of the fiber. A report from Cape Province, South Africa, shows that in a heavy rainfall area, where sheep are sheared three times in two years, heavy dosing with sulfur improved the strength of the wool which shows an indirect relationship with the heavy rainfall. Continuous rains also wash off most of the yolk and suint from the fleece causing it to be easily felted.

#### Humidity

Humidity does not appear to cause any direct effect on the fleece except that it

produces conditions favorable for attack by other factors particularly when it is associated with heat. Experiments conducted in Canada to test the effect of humidity and temperature regulated by artificial means over a period of five years showed no significant results except that the fiber length decreased by 6.2 percent. Fiber thickness and tensile strength were not affected. The fleeces produced under the highest humidity showed a much lower amount of grease than those in a lower humidity and the latter showed a higher suint or sweat content. It has been observed in high mountain climates where the air is dry, the wool is less dense and finer than in the lower, damper regions. Reports from Australia show that "canary" stain in wool is associated with high humidity and temperature. Shearing prior to the critical period of infection should help to control this condition. Speakman and McMahon (2) also report that the effect of weathering is variable according to humidity and sunlight conditions.

#### Heat and Temperature

Heat and temperature are important factors in the range livestock business. Information is lacking on the nature of the damage done solely by heat. Affected wool is discolored, dry, harsh and brittle. It is a matter of common observation in South Africa that the wool grown in the hot and dry northwest and midlands of the Karoo area, with a high temperature in summer, is for the most part dry and brittle. Experience in the wool producing areas of

(Continued on page 31)



Man must help out here by hay feeding from a sled on winter range to keep the sheep in good condition.—Union Pacific Railroad Photo

# LAMBING ON LOWER SNAKE RIVER

*S*HEEP raising on the Wallowa National Forest is a year-long range operation. During the fall, winter and spring the flocks range in the bunch grass canyons of the Imnaha and Snake rivers.

Here at elevations of twelve to thirty-five hundred feet, sheep rarely require supplemental feeds. Fall rains start the bunch grass growing and that makes excellent winter feed. In occasional winters like the one of 1948-49, supplemental rations of cake or barley are packed out to the range and fed along with the range grasses.

In May the bands are started for the summer ranges in the "High Wallows," some 60 miles away. Here in mountain meadows at elevations of five to eight thousand feet the lambs do well on the succulent weed type of forage. By August or early September they have reached 90 to 100 pounds and are ready for the short trail to Enterprise, Oregon and the Union Pacific Railroad.

*Pictures and Story by Bob Bailey*



Wallowa County Rancher and Sheepman Mr. Jay H. Dobbin sets his horse while discussing lambing with Wallowa National Forest Range Conservationist Melvin H. Burke. Mr. Dobbin had been digging water holes for his ewes and lambs to water. At 81 years of age Mr. Dobbin still enjoys working with his sheep.



(2)



(3)

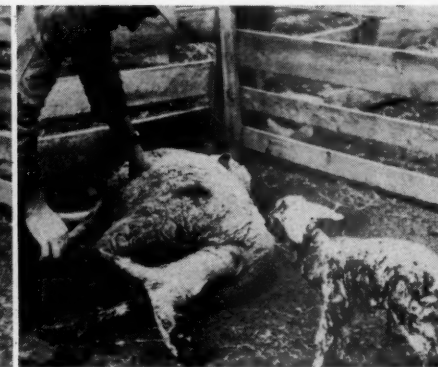


(4)

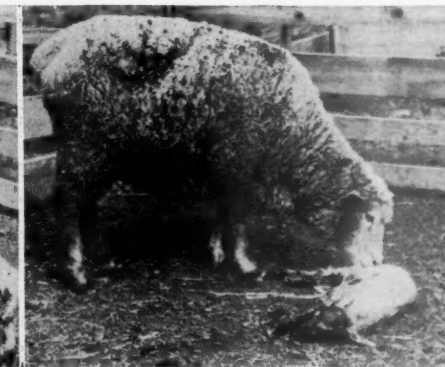
(2) Mr. Dobbin looks with curiosity at the photographer while constructing a water hole. He did not know the gadget pointing his way was a Leica camera. (3) Mr. Dobbin pours out some salt for the ewes on a nearby rock flat. (4) The lambing camp on Eureka Creek is surrounded by rolling hills of waving bunch grass. The "drop band" is corralled at night where a night man attends the ewe in labor. If twins are born the ewe and lambs are placed in a "Granny pen" for 24 hours before being turned out on the open range.



(5)



(6)



(7)

(5) Packer and Foreman Wayne Wilson assists a ewe in labor. (6) Twins are born, or as we say "dropped." (7) The "Happy Mother" inspects the second arrival.



(8)



(9)



(10)

(8) Mother and twins get acquainted. (9) The work begins. A ewe with a "spoilt bag." To obtain a 105 percent "range lambing" these twins must be transplanted to young ewes that from various reasons have lost their lambs. (10) Attendant Wayne Wilson skins a dead lamb. The skin will be placed over one of the lambs the ewe with the spoilt bag can not raise.



(11)



(12)



(13)

(11) The skin from the dead lamb is pulled over the orphan (or bummer) like a sweater. (12) The orphan is properly clothed. Next the liver is taken out of the dead lamb and rubbed on the orphan's face and rump. This helps to transplant the scent from the dead lamb to the orphan and makes it easier for the new mother to accept the orphan as her own lamb. (13) The ewe that had the dead lamb suspiciously smells her new stepchild "Droopy Drawers."



(14)



(15)



(16)

(14) Ewe with three lambs checks up on things. (15) Ewes and lambs turned out to play on a sunny "south." In Wallowa we have only two exposures. All warm open hillsides are called "souths." The timbered or brushy hillsides and the heavy grassed slopes are "norths" regardless. (16) The trail of Eureka Creek lambing range cuts through the Imnaha River Gorge: 55 miles from Enterprise, Oregon, by road and trail; 60 miles above Lewiston, Idaho, by boat on the Snake River.

Summer range in the "High Wallows." The pack string dozes in the sun on a meadow near one of the many lakes.





Australian Corriedales in heavy improved pasture.

## New Pastures Boost Australia's Sheep Yield

Two Blades of Grass Are Growing Where One Grew Before

By COLIN WEBB, M. Agr. Sc.

**A**USTRALIAN sheepmen's resolve in the early 1920's to "make two blades of grass grow where one grew before" has succeeded beyond expectations. Native pastures which grew good wool but supported less than a dry sheep to the acre have been replaced by productive introduced grasses and clovers which carry two breeding ewes an acre.

With wool bringing such high prices, the comparatively small financial outlay for a few pounds of grass and clover seed and about 90 pounds of superphosphate an acre has proved very profitable. In addition, soils which had deteriorated under exploitive continuous grazing and cereal growing have had their fertility restored under a grassland program. Where rainfall is adequate, these soils now produce cheap high yielding crops of good quality grain without fallow or nitrogenous fertilizer.

This spectacular development has occurred chiefly in the 20-to-25-inch-a-year rainfall belt where a big proportion of Australia's most valuable fine wool is grown.

It started with a series of experiments initiated by the Pasture Improvement League which was financed by sheepmen and commercial firms for whom the agricultural department did the field trials. Early tests stressed the tremendous possibilities of subterranean clover (*Trifolium subterraneum*)—introduced from Europe where it is a weed—to increase the bulk of feed and improve the soil by nitrification. Experts have developed strains of this clover which will grow in districts which receive as little as 16 inches of rain a year. Other strains do well under extremely wet conditions.

Like all legumes, subterranean clover is stimulated greatly by superphosphate which has been truly a "magic powder" on Australia's phosphate-deficient soils. Fields are topdressed with fertilizer every fall. Dressings range from 60 pounds to 350 pounds an acre. Few areas need any other fertilizer. After a few years under subterranean clover, soil fertility was raised to such a degree that it would grow rye grass (*Lolium perenne*) and other grasses to provide a well-balanced ration.

At first, the mixture of about 2 pounds of clover and 6 pounds of grass an acre was sown through seed drills under a wheat crop and was allowed to develop after the cereal grain had been harvested. It is now merely drilled straight into the native pasture during the fall and is ready for light grazing in the spring. Pastures on many World War II veterans' properties are being established this way. As well as being cheaper, this method does not destroy the native grasses which give a valuable balance to the diet.

Subterranean clover is an annual plant but is never in danger of being exterminated by a dry fall. It insures itself against germination failures by setting a percentage of hardcoated seeds which do not sprout in the first year but stay in the ground until conditions are favorable. The seeds are very nutritious, and sheep grow excellent fleeces when living on clover seed and little else but dry roughage during the summer.

Other pastures in the 20-25 inch rainfall improvement plan include canary grass (*Phalaris tuberosa*) and alfalfa. The former

is a bluish leafed perennial which survives dry times well. Alfalfa is grown chiefly to give green feed during the summer. When established, it has great drought resistance.

These pastures are supplemented by green cereals which give most of the feed on which lambs are fattened during the winter when grass growth is slow. Later in the year, the cereals are allowed to mature for hay or grain reserves. Some sheepmen also grow summer crops such as Sudan grass and grain sorghum. No corn is fed to Australian sheep. The most critical time for feed on these pastures is the fall when flocks are given silage, grass hay and cereal hay or grain. Breeding ewes get special supplementary rations.

Periodic droughts force sheepmen to store at least a year's supply of fodder. Oat grain is becoming increasingly popular for this purpose. It is stored in farm elevators and given to the sheep in special self feeders into which grain falls automatically to replace what has been eaten.

Enthusied with the doubled carrying capacities of their properties in the early days of pasture improvement, sheepmen thought that all the work they would have to do would be to sit down and watch their flocks grow wool. However, this attitude soon proved false because the upset balance of nature brought with it many stock diseases which require constant attention.

The worst of these troubles is foot rot which eats away the horns on sheep's feet until the animals have to crawl on their knees to feed and water. Only treatments are to pare the hooves with a knife and run the sheep through bluestone or formalin footbaths to kill the germs. This work is very tedious and unpleasant.

Internal parasites, too, have increased since improved pastures have brought greater concentrations of sheep to small areas. Flocks have to be drenched several times a year with bluestone-nicotine or phenothiazine to control these stomach worms.

Nutritional disorders cause scouring which attracts blowflies to do a lot of damage and create much extra work. Owners have to be careful to balance "soft" lush growth with dry feed to control "pulpy kidney" ("overeating disease") which causes thousands of high quality lambs to die every year.

By far the most puzzling disease to follow pasture improvement has been "Sub. clover infertility disease." It results from formation of a hormone which causes sexual upsets in sheep. Its unusual symptoms include milk production by wethers and the

inability of ewes to deliver their lambs. Commonwealth scientists have not yet solved this trouble completely.

Valuable pasture improvement work and soil fertility restoration have been done also in the drier parts of the continent where carrying capacities range from a sheep to five acres, to a sheep on several square miles of saltbush. In the better parts of these districts, wet winters enable quality lambs to be raised on cereals and hence bring premium prices before markets become flooded with stock from better rainfall districts.

Introduction of barrel clover (*Medicago tribuloides*) and Wimmera rye grass (*Lolium subulatum*) to these districts has given a valuable soil fertility improvement medium as well as providing good spring feed. During the summer, sheep live on stubbles where there is enough rain to grow cereals. Alfalfa also gives valuable summer feed but fodder conservation is vital to these districts.

On the western plains of Queensland, scientists are trying to improve the native Mitchell grass rather than introduce species from abroad. In the desert country, they are studying the possibility of breeding new saltbushes to decrease grazing hazards. The project is hard but important. Management is vital in these areas where pasture regeneration is chancy and wind erosion is common.

The improvement of irrigated pastures is also important to Australian sheepmen. Sheep are run in this environment for meat

rather than for wool and 15 lambs can be raised on an acre during the summer for the lightly supplied fall markets. In most districts, alfalfa has been replaced by a white clover-cocksfoot mixture which is practically the same as America's ladino clover-orchard grass combination.

Subterranean clover and rye grass are watered to prolong spring growth and guarantee fall production where water supplies are too limited to grow white clover and cocksfoot. Other grasses include the rank growing paspalum (*Paspalum dilitatum*) and summer growing sorghums.

As in the high rainfall districts, foot rot and internal parasites are big problems under irrigation. Also, watering must be skillful to prevent the rise of salt from the subsoil with consequent killing of the pasture.

(Continued on page 40)



Australian World War II Veteran MacNamara (left) shows his improved pasture growth to World War I Veteran Denny.



Cutting a heavy growth of improved subterranean clover and rye grass pasture in western Victoria, Australia.

# State Presidents' Forum



**KENNETH P. PICKRELL**  
President

Arizona Wool Growers  
Association

March 19, 1951

IT appears that each new move by our stabilization and control authorities enlarges on "Project Confusion." Producers are daily becoming more hesitant in regard to future plans and housewives grumble more loudly over the price of foods.

Anyone with any knowledge of the sheep business is well aware that the rapid decline in our national sheep numbers started in the early 1940s with the advent of wool tariff concessions and the birth of OPA. The wool growers of the Nation can be justly proud of the efforts our various organizations and certain Congressmen made in an attempt to convince "The Brain Trusters" of the fallacy of these policies. Perhaps we should have directed our efforts elsewhere, for it is quite evident that those we worked on were not interested in what effect a future shortage of wool might have on the needs of our armed forces or how a shortage of meat might affect the everyday economy of our Nation. It is also quite evident that they have been set on bypassing many of the principles that have made the U. S. a great nation and interested only, regardless of cost, to contrive so as to snare the vote of those who have not developed the ability to think.

There is little doubt that the tremendous sums that have been tossed into the mill by our National Treasury are some of the principal causes of our inflated prices. Yet they would spend more to reduce these prices or bring about stabilization. It is unfortunate that the boys in Washington are not possessed with some of the intelligence of our American automobile manufacturers. The boys at Detroit, and very wisely so, designed our American cars so that the right foot could not be placed on both the gas and the brake at the same time. To do so would result in either burned-out brakes or serious damage to other essential parts. Well, anyway, let us hope they do not pour so much gas in the old bus that they make a complete wreck of it and us, too. Maybe we will get a new driver in 1953?



**DAVID LITTLE**  
President

Idaho Wool Growers  
Association

March 22, 1951

I have never known of a sheepman who was completely satisfied with his outfit. It is my observation that this is a good trait because it has often been the incentive for improvement. Idaho sheepmen through their aggressive policies have maintained above average production per ewe.

A progressive approach to our business, with close pursual of industry happenings, makes certain that we will be in a better position to judge ever changing conditions. Working together, through organization, participating as a unit, we have an advantage of improving our individual operation of the business in which we are engaged. It is certainly a privilege to know the vast majority of Idaho sheepmen will loyally support their industry.

Our recent State legislature hued very closely to the program of sound constructive policies as set forth by our Governor Len Jordan. He has assembled around him a group of some of our State's most practical and successful businessmen. This is a great tribute to our Governor, and it is a tribute to those who have assumed these duties. I am proud, our industry has been honored, that numbered among his selections were two of our own Idaho sheepmen, R. C. Rich of Burley, and Tom Bell of Rupert. Mr. Rich is chairman of the State Board of Highway Commissioners and Mr. Bell, State superintendent of buildings. We need more men in public office like Idaho's Governor Jordan.



**HOWARD DOGGETT**  
President

Montana Wool Growers  
Association

March 15, 1951

MONTANA sheepmen experienced one of the coldest Marches on record with temperatures dropping as low as 34 degrees below zero and up to 11 inches of snow in some portions of the State. Heavy snowfall and blizzard conditions prevailed throughout the State for the first two weeks, curtailing range grazing and causing some

weight loss in livestock. Most ranchers were forced to feed substantial amounts of hay or supplement. There is a plentiful supply of hay available and no serious difficulty in hauling feed has been reported.

Sheep and lambs are in good condition. Death losses have been very light. There is a strong demand for stock sheep for the building up of flocks and starting farm flocks.

An estimated 90 percent of Montana's 1951 wool clip has been contracted. There was some scattered contracting throughout the State during the past month. An accumulation of 200,000 pounds of wool from eastern Montana was contracted at \$1.45. Other prices ranged from \$1.20 to \$1.42½ per pound.

Lamb contracting has been slow; 3,000 blackfaced yearling ewes, out of the wool for July delivery, were contracted recently for \$35 per head and 1,200 whitefaced wether lambs for fall delivery at 32 cents; offers now being made at 35 cents.

Ranchers are looking forward to large lamb crops. Lambing is expected to get into full swing about the middle to the latter part of April.



**GERALD E. STANFIELD**  
President

Oregon Wool Growers  
Association

March 17, 1951

OREGON suffered severe winter weather the first ten days of March. High winds accompanied snow that covered practically all the State except the extreme southwestern section. As the saying goes, "March comes in as a lion and goes out like a lamb," or "an early spring, with an early Easter." Now the middle of the month with warmer weather and rain, we hope it will be spring.

Those who have early lambs report a good percentage and lambs doing well. The ewes to lamb in April and May have wintered well and prospects indicate a good lamb crop. There are a number of contracts for lambs: some whitefaced wether lambs from 26 cents to 33 cents, fall delivery; some mixed white-faced lambs, September delivery, 34 cents to 36 cents and straight whitefaced ewe lambs, 40 cents to 45 cents.

There are a few clips of wool in eastern Oregon unsold. The growers now are talking \$1.50 and probably will sell for that

money if they continue to hold it.

Many livestock men are worrying about price controls; they fear controls will be placed on live animals and wool or perhaps there may be a rollback. Any form of control breeds uneasiness and upsets producers. Controls are breeders of discontent, both to the producer and consumer. Past history has led us to believe controls cannot be successfully managed even at a time when our Nation faces a crisis. The safest course is to try and build stability, and confidence, instead of alarm and uncertainty. If we are to expect a third world war, we must prepare to enter it with a feeling of confidence at home. We will produce the necessities for fighting it in all branches of industry. The ranges and the farms must produce the food while the assembly lines turn out the implements. Organized industrial labor must curb the desire for greater income and the leaders of industry must be willing to give their efforts toward unity. Only with unity can we create strength to withstand the ravages of war and overcome our enemies.



**HAROLD JOSENDAL**  
President

Wyoming Wool Growers  
Association

March 22, 1951

**T**HE month of March has seen some further activity in the Wyoming wool and lamb markets. Some wool has been sold at from \$1.30 to \$1.50. Actually no great volume of wool has sold recently since more than 90 percent of the 1951 clip has been contracted. Shearing has started in the Big Horn Basin area with good growths of wool being reported.

There have been some advance lamb contracts at prices of from 33 cents to 35.5 cents for fall delivery. Advance contracts on old ewes for fall delivery have been made at prices from \$23 to \$25. Some yearling ewes have been sold at \$40 per head. A bunch of mixed aged ewes of good quality sold at \$56 per head.

We are disappointed to note that Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports show a continuation in Wyoming of the downward trend in sheep population. The number of breeding ewes on hand January 1, 1951 was down by a little more than 2 percent from the previous year. We had expected to see some increase judging by the greater interest last fall in replacement ewe lambs and the better wool producing bucks. We attribute this continued reduction to two factors: first, labor, and second, aftermath

of the winter of 1949. There is still a shortage of competent, experienced sheepherders. Because of 1949 losses it was necessary for many operators to retain their old ewes for range breeding stock. These old ewes were sold in the fall of 1950 and the loss of sufficient replacements in '49 is now reflected in the breeding ewe population.

There is considerable interest throughout eastern and southern Wyoming in rain increasing. About 40 percent of the State is now organized in districts to study weather and if possible increase rainfall when needed. These districts have signed contracts with the Weather Research Development Corporation of California. The average cost to landholders is expected to be about 1½ cents per acre. This part of the State has had little moisture this winter and anticipates the possibility of a real need for rain increasing.

Wyoming is among the States which have established weather control boards to license and record weather research. The Wyoming legislature felt it necessary to take this step to restrict irresponsible experiments and to take a positive step on the part of the State to prevent the Federal Government from taking complete control.

### **New Nevada Grazing District Opposed**

**L**AST month's Wool Grower reported establishment of a new grazing district in Nevada by the U. S. Department of the Interior. The controversy over the setting up of this district is a long-lived one. On June 4, 1937, after ten years' opposition, the Department of Interior revoked withdrawal of the land for the purpose of establishing a grazing district and threw it open to application for entry under existing homestead and other public land laws, although little of the area is considered suitable for agricultural purposes. On October 17th of that year the Department of Interior agreed to hold its June 4th order up for another six months.

The opposition of stockmen to the grazing district has not died down at all apparently. This time they are backed by Governor Charles H. Russell who has requested Secretary of the Interior Chapman to postpone the project indefinitely. Objections of stockmen set up in a petition signed by 100 also went to Secretary Chapman.

Unless the Secretary of the Interior intervenes as requested, the plan for the formation of the district will be carried out, according to a statement made by R. L. Greenslet, chief of the Division of Grazing, Bureau of Land Management.

### **Texas Directors Meet**

**T**HE elimination of subsidy payments through Production and Marketing Administration was asked by directors of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association in a resolution passed at their quarterly meeting, Bandera, March 10th. They also strongly opposed price ceilings on livestock because they will reduce production and create further meat shortages.

The appointment of a Wool Growers' Advisory Committee to work with the Office of Price Stabilization was also asked. The directors held that the best place to build up a stockpile of wool is on the sheeps' backs and that increased domestic production would not be encouraged by a subsidization of foreign wool; therefore, they opposed such a proposal.

Since lack of sufficient State funds to handle the scabies program properly was reported by Director DuVal Davidson of the Texas Livestock Sanitary Commission, the directors voted to "take contributions from producers to supplement state funds until the emergency is over or until the legislature provides sufficient funds for the work."

### **GRASSLANDS HAVE VITAL ROLE**

Grasslands agriculture can make enormous contributions to increased food production during the national emergency, according to Dr. W. M. Myers, head of forage crop research for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. He labels as "a false concept" the idea that farmers must plow up good grasslands because of the international crisis.

"Not only must we carry on with a grasslands program during the emergency, but we must push grasslands agriculture with increased vigor," Dr. Myers declares. "Without improved grasslands the Nation will have less total food, and diets will include less meat, milk, butter, and cheese."

He defines grassland farming as a system based on wise use of grasses and legumes in the cropping scheme, and in permanent pastures, to protect the soil and to give profitable and sustained food production.

# This Month's Quiz:

## What Qualifications must a Man have to be a Good Lambing Helper?

A good lamber is no different than any other man who handles livestock. He realizes that you cannot fight stock and must think ahead of them.

A lamber needs to be young, experienced, strong, active and able with a saddle horse. This last is very important when you lamb in pastures. A lamber just has to get over a lot of range. Physical strength is necessary for those big storms when ewes must be caught and "tepeed" or "jugged." It is not uncommon for a man to work 24 hours a day at such times; often with irregular meals of canned goods and coffee.

With the constant military draft of young men from the country, prospects of getting these men are slimmer than ever. Almost all livestock men who have the "know-how" develop it before 21. Education and war take most of these years now.

Charles F. Conley  
Quietus, Montana

HE should first be interested in working with sheep. He should likewise be very patient and observant and willing to be on watch at all times. He must also be able to tell when young lambs are not getting enough milk and, of course, be willing to cooperate with other helpers.

Oscar Gibson  
Glendale, Arizona

TO be a good lambing helper a man must know how to handle sheep and have at least five years' experience. Prospects are slight for obtaining such men around here.

Angelo Poulos  
Meeker, Colorado

OUR experienced and best helpers during the lambing season are becoming too old; the younger generation is not interested in this line of work. A man to be a good helper must know sheep and be able to detect common sicknesses among ewes and lambs at this vital period. An experienced helper will understand the proper feeding both as to hay and grain and be willing to work overtime when weather conditions make it imperative.

John M. Garro  
Rupert, Idaho

THE first requisite for a good lamber would be some practical experience and then constant alertness to the many problems that arise and a willingness to apply himself when needed. Such help is becoming more difficult to find in our locality year after year.

J. E. Garner  
Rexburg, Idaho

A good lambing helper must be one who is vitally interested in his job and willing to accept advice. He must be one who has had previous experience or some knowledge of sheep and their habits, one who is quiet, patient and willing to make the ewe and lamb his first interest. He must be alert in order to see and help ewes with birth, at times, to be sure that the lamb is able to get his first meal, and must carefully attend the flock at this time to see that all lambs are with their mothers.

It is very important that he see that all ewes have had plenty of feed and water, but not confined too long in one place.

We have some very good men in our locality but not enough to go around for all of us. Most of the good men are with the larger outfits who can pay higher wages than the smaller units. This makes it very

hard for a small outfit to obtain competent help.

Lee J. Proper  
Placerville, Colorado

OUR first qualification for good lambing help, of course, is the same as for any other help: conscientiousness or dependability. Then we would want our lambing help to have the necessary working knowledge that would enable them to do the job on their own without continual supervision. We would like men that enjoy that type of work, and have the patience to take care of animals as stubborn as small lambs can be when it seems they have more interest in dying than living. Good lambers need to be alert and able to observe when young lambs are not doing as well as they should, or have become separated from their mothers, or any other of the countless things that happen during lambing. Also, they should be able to cope with these problems in a satisfactory manner.

It is our observation that lambing help or sheep help of any kind is getting hard to get. The older men are fast disappearing, and very few young men are going into this type of work.

Chester Price  
Montrose, Colorado

MUST be honest and dependable and industrious and should have some knowledge of the habits and characteristics of sheep. He should always be alert, tolerant and patient, and should be willing to put forth extra effort if necessary and should be able to exercise good sound judgment.

Sheep are very sensitive to fright and abuse. A good helper should recognize that.

Men of this type are very hard to get here.

Morton Kearl  
Laketown, Utah



"GUESS WHAT, DAD---THE ELECTRIC RAZOR YOU ORDERED LAST WEEK CAME IN TO-DAY'S MAIL!"

—National Wool Grower

Remember the Dates:

August 20-21, 1951

For the National Ram Sale

# *A Special Announcement to the Wool Industry*

For many years we paint makers have sold sheep marking or branding paint with variable degrees of scourability.

Wool buyers have been able to put little faith in this scourability and have rarely been able to classify the clip they are buying, as one that could be thrown directly into the scouring tank with assurance of "Paint free wool."

An Australian formula was proposed last year but was found unusable in cold climates because heating drove off certain important ingredients.

Out of our experiments with the Australian formula, we have developed a paint which seems to meet requirements in laboratory tests. Before we say that it is "the perfect sheep paint," we want the benefit of a year's test under actual wool growing conditions.

As this is a new product, wool buyers and wool washers may, or may not give recognition immediately to the scourability of fleeces with these brands, and use of this paint may not reflect in better clean wool prices for some time. But we feel that those buying this paint cannot be worse off than they are now except for a moderate additional cost over regular sheep paints now on the market.

From all tests we have made, the paint has the following properties:

1. Brand lasts 6 to 14 months. (In severe climates you may have to brand twice a year.)
2. Fleece rendered paint free when scoured in typical scouring solutions.
3. Paint thinned with water. Stands  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of water up to as much as  $\frac{1}{2}$  gallon of water to each gallon of paint, depending on the temperature at branding time.
4. Paint should be heated in freezing weather. No important ingredient is driven off, unless boiled.
5. Paint requires very little stirring before or during use.
6. Paint does not remain wet for long periods of time. Forms a dry outer surface but a soft inner.

We are asking those wool growers interested in this new development to send us their orders as early as possible to avoid delay in delivery.

Following are prices:

Red	Green	Blue	Black
\$3.95 per gallon in 1 gallon cans			
\$3.80 per gallon in 5 gallon cans			
Freight Prepaid on 8 Gallon Quantity or More			

## **Jourgensen Paint Manufacturing Co.**

242 West Yellowstone Highway

CASPER, WYOMING

# The Wool Market

## IN THE PRODUCING AREA

WITH a payment of \$1.84 3/8 a grease pound for 5100 fleeces of Sacramento Valley wool in California the early part of March, prices for western wools reached a new peak. The wool was from the Murdock Land Company ranch, Williams, California, operated by J. Kenneth Sexton. The transaction was a sealed bid sale and was doubly interesting because Mr. Sexton was said to have refused his first offer of 75 cents last August. The wool, to be shorn in April and May, has a spinning count of 63 or more.

Another high sale of Sacramento Valley wools covered 2200 fleeces at \$1.64½ cents. The estimated clean landed Boston value of both the above clips is between \$3.55 and \$3.65 or a little higher.

Howard Vaughn of Dixon, California, sold from 4000 to 5000 fleeces of 8 months' wool at \$1.50 a pound and that price was being paid quite freely during the month for 8 months' Texas wools; in fact, \$1.51 was given for some Texas clips.

There have been some unconfirmed rumors of \$1.60 being paid for Texas 12 months' clips but known recent transactions in that State have been made from \$1.50 to \$1.51½ and a small amount of ordinary 12 months' wool has moved in a range of \$1.25 to \$1.45.

The \$1.50 figure was paid for some South Dakota wools during the first part of March. Montana reports give the following transactions during the first half of the month: 510 fleeces at \$1.20; 2,600 fleeces at \$1.30; 700 at \$1.35½; 4,100 at \$1.42 and 8,300 at \$1.42½.

On the whole, however, with little wool left in the West, activity has been correspondingly slow. The few growers in the Intermountain section who still own their wool are holding for \$1.50, it is reported.

In the fleece wool States where shearing is in full progress, three-eighths and quarter blood wools were being purchased up to \$1.35 the first two weeks of the month.

## AT BOSTON

While waiting for clarification of the general ceiling price regulation as it pertains to wool products, the market at Boston remains a dull affair with practically the only transactions being in wools needed for Government orders which are exempted temporarily from ceiling price regulations.

Settlement of the month-long strike of

the Textile Workers Union of America was on the way March 13th. On that date the Union leaders reached an agreement with the American Woolen Company which, it was believed, would furnish the basis on which the strike would be settled with other mills. Under the new contract wages are increased 12 cents an hour, with an additional 1.5 cents an hour set aside for hospitalization and other benefits. Contract also includes provision for an increase in wages based on the rise in the cost of living. Approval of Eric Johnston, Economic Stabilization Administrator, to the agreement was expected, but on March 16th, he is reported as saying that action could not be taken until the Wage Stabilization Board is functioning again; so the strike is still on (March 23rd). The wage increases are estimated by some to mean an addition 15 cents a yard to the cost of

clothing.

This strike, commenced on February 19th is believed to have caused a production loss of 10 million yards as from a third to a half of the mills have been shut down.

## ABROAD

Foreign markets have not only remained strong but have moved upward. The rise from sales of March 8th to the 17th, was from 2½ to 5 percent.

Demand for comeback and broad Merino wools has put them on a price par with fine Merinos, it is reported. Competition has been accelerated at Australian auctions by stepped-up interest of Canada. Her purchases this year may reach \$25,000,000, it is said.

The Commercial Bulletin reports imports of apparel types of wool into the United (Continued on page 24)

## ANOTHER WOOL BUREAU PROJECT



The Wool Bureau's Distributive Education program was recently opened with a pilot course for men's wear sales personnel in New Haven, Connecticut, under direction of Mrs. Dorothy Burgess, former Supervisor of Distributive Education for Connecticut. Shown at the first session in New Haven's Chamber of Commerce Building are, left to right: F. Eugene Ackerman, President of The Wool Bureau; Mrs. Burgess and Lawrence D. Harvey, Manager of the Chamber's Distribution Division. The pilot course, an adaptation of the Bureau's retail sales training course in men's wear now in use in 1,700 retail stores throughout the U. S., will serve as a model for similar projects in other States of the 43 in which Distributive Education programs are currently under way with Federal and State support. A course on wool textiles for salespeople in women's ready-to-wear and piece goods departments is now being prepared by The Wool Bureau, and will be launched in a similar pilot operation this spring.

# More Chicken . . .

**A booming broiler industry adds a billion and three-quarter pounds of "eating" for the nation's consumers**

*It is probable that even to agricultural producers themselves the growth of poultry raising in the United States is news. News worth our reporting and your reading . . .*

Last year America's poultry farmers produced one and three-quarter billion pounds of broilers. With turkeys and other poultry added on, 1950's production of poultry meat equalled half of our beef production.

Not many years ago broilers were the cockerel half of replacement chickens for the laying flock . . . sold for meat. Quality varied greatly. Some were light, some heavy; some young, some old; some tender, some tough. Supply was seasonal, and consumer demand feeble.

But today, broiler raising is a fast-growing, mechanized, mass-production industry with an established mass market. And a mighty efficient industry, too. Special broiler strains have been developed—plump, meaty birds that grow into 3-pound broilers in 10 to 12 weeks—and make a pound of chicken meat from 3 pounds of feed or less. In a modern broiler house, one man can handle up to 30,000 broilers, up to four times a year. Thus, one man can turn out as much as a half-million pounds of meat in one year.

Starting on the East Coast's Del-Mar-Va (Delaware, Maryland, Virginia) peninsula, broiler growing has spread all over the nation—to New England, the South—to the Midwest, the Southwest, Pacific Coast. It's still growing lustily. So long as Mrs. Consumer says, "More chicken, please," it will continue to grow—as long, also, as ingenious, self-reliant American producers see the possibility of profitable food production via broilers, even in marginal areas—of sharing in a business which last year accounted for four hundred and fifty million dollars of our nation's farm income.

## Martha Logan's Recipe for

### HUNGARIAN CHICKEN

1 chicken, cut up for frying      1 teaspoon paprika  
½ cup butter or shortening      ½ cup water  
Salt, Pepper      1 cup cream

3 medium onions, diced      Hot cooked noodles or rice  
Rinse chicken pieces in cold water and dry. Melt butter in heavy skillet; season chicken pieces and brown on both sides. Remove from skillet. Add onions to skillet and fry slowly until tender. Return browned chicken pieces (skin side up) to skillet and sprinkle with paprika. Add water and cover. Cook slowly for 30 to 40 minutes or until tender. Remove chicken pieces to platter. Add the cream to skillet mixture. Stir and heat thoroughly. Serve with cooked noodles or rice.

OUR  
CITY COUSIN

When Biddy is broody, she's sharp with her beak.  
City Cousin found out on a visit last week.



## Production vs. Price Controls

Meat price controls are aimed at helping to curb inflation. We can all sincerely hope that they will succeed in this.

Swift & Company will abide by these controls.

On the other hand, I think there's a better way of doing our part in controlling inflation. I refer to the program worked out together by farm and ranch organizations, various meat packers, and others. This broad plan was presented to the government. It aims directly at curing the cause of inflation—too much money bidding for too little produce. Here's what our livestock-meat industry proposed:

*First, encourage an increased supply of meat. What we need is more livestock, not less. Do everything possible to induce ranchers and farmers to raise more and better meat animals. Encourage them, also, to produce more feed and to use it efficiently. Reduce livestock death and injury losses. All those things can be done. They all mean more meat.*

*Second, take steps so there won't be so many inflated dollars around bidding up prices. That, too, can be done. By pay-as-we-go taxation. By cutting down on too-easy credit. By encouraging savings. By holding down the expansion of the supply of money. And by strict economy—in government, business and individual spending. All those are strong checks against inflation.*

*The results would be certain. More meat, fairly distributed. The efficiency of maximum production—which we need. No loss of precious medicines and other by-products. Normal, above-board business instead of black market graft and waste. And a safe and sound economy for our nation both during and after this emergency.*

I would like to know what you think.

F.M. Simpson

Agricultural Research Department

## Swift & Company

UNION STOCK YARDS, CHICAGO 9, ILL.

**Nutrition is our business—and yours**

## Chemical Control of Brush on Rangeland

by Robert M. Salter  
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture  
Beltsville, Maryland



Robert M. Salter

Chemical control of brush and noxious weeds can increase livestock carrying capacity by 50 to 75 percent. This has been proved in tests conducted by the U. S. Southern Great Plains Field Station at Woodward, Oklahoma. Research workers and co-operating ranchers used planes to spray several hundred thousand acres of sagebrush. They applied low concentrations of the chemical 2,4-D to the sage when it was in vigorous growth in the late spring. The cost ran about \$2.50 an acre and the results were effective.

Mesquite, one of the most spectacular range brush pests, does not appear to be affected by 2,4-D. However, studies at Spur, Texas, indicate that another new chemical—2,4,5-T—may be used effectively on mesquite and other brushy pests. Extensive field tests are needed to determine the proper treatments and whether they are practical from an economic standpoint.

Getting rid of the brush and weeds is only a part of the research story on range improvement. A second part, equally important, is the creation of improved varieties of grasses and legumes for seeding the cleaned land.

Forage breeders are now focusing attention on species that will supplement native grasses, extend the grazing season, persist through weather hazards, yield high quality feeds, and then produce larger amounts of viable seed than the present commonly grown varieties. Many of these are now in the development stage. Some of them will be available in the next few years.

## New Color Movie FREE for your use!

"Who Buys Your Livestock?"

You'll see the various ways that producers of meat animals sell their livestock when and where they decide it will be to their best advantage. This brand new, colorful animated film runs 9 minutes. Instructive and fun. Ideal for school, church, lodge or farm meetings. For 16-mm. sound projectors. All you pay is transportation costs one way. Write: Swift & Company, Agricultural Research Dept., Chicago 9, Ill.



States as running, up to March 1st, at a weekly rate of 6,176,000 pounds scoured basis, or at about 535 million pounds a year greasy basis. Since December wool has been unloaded at Boston at a weekly average of 4,465,000 pounds, scoured; that is, about 72 percent of the total imports have arrived at that port.

New Zealand auctions have been closed within recent weeks on account of a dock strike; South African markets remain strong. United States buyers have not been very active in South America recently as stocks are scarce and prices at too high a level to interest them.

Other important items affecting the wool situation and outlook are taken up separately.

### **Wool Shrinkages May Vary for Same Wool**

**S**COURED wool does not mean 100 percent pure wool. Wool growers and others who sell and buy wool should keep this in mind when comparing shrinkage determinations by core test with scouring results and top and noil yields.

Wool is used in many different products

and manufacturers may have their wools scoured to varying percentages of non-wool content for specific reasons. As a result the same wool may show different percentages of shrinkage, depending upon the amount of moisture and grease left during scouring.

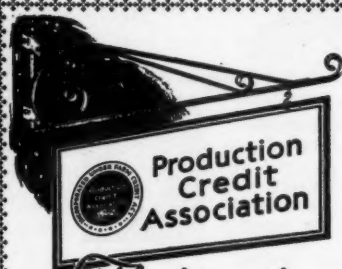
The variation in the amount of non-wool elements in scoured wool is illustrated by the following figures on 120 lots of wool which were scoured for the Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration of the Department of Agriculture, during the years 1946, 1947 and 1948.

Non-Wool Content	Plant A	Plant B	Plant C	Plant D	Four Plants
	(Number of Lots)				
12% and under	1	1	0	0	2
12.1 to 13%	2	1	0	0	3
13.1 to 14%	5	4	0	0	9
14.1 to 15%	29	4	2	2	37
15.1 to 16%	50	3	2	6	61
16.1 and over	6	1	1	0	8
Total .....	93	14	5	8	120

These figures show wide variations in the percentage of non-wool items left in scoured wool, not only between plants but also between lots at the same plant. Results from such a limited number of lots, of course, are not conclusive. However, they do indicate the importance of knowing the non-wool content of a particular lot of scoured wool when comparing scouring plant yields with core test results.

In order to place the core test shrinkage reports for all wools on a uniform basis regardless of how the wools ultimately may be scoured, a standard allowance for the non-wool content of scoured wool is figured in computing core test results. Under the procedure followed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the pure wool content is adjusted to allow for 14 percent non-wool components. As specified on the shrinkage certificate issued by the Department, 12 percent of this is standard allowance for moisture and two percent for grease and ash. This is the allowance developed by the American Society for Testing Materials and is used also by the Bureau of Customs of the U. S. Treasury Department in assessing duty on foreign wool imports.

While the core test results provide a uniform allowance for non-wool content, the important point to recognize is that the non-wool content in lots of scoured



*The Sign of...*

### **DEPENDABLE CREDIT**

**For Sheep and Cattle Operations . . .**

### **RANGE PASTURE FEED LOT**

*Contact the Association in Your Territory*

- **ARIZONA LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSN.**  
Lower Lobby Adams Hotel Bldg., PHOENIX, ARIZONA
- **CALIFORNIA LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSN.**  
801 Sharon Building, 55 New Montgomery Street, SAN FRANCISCO
- **MONTANA LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSN.**  
HELENA, MONTANA
- **NEVADA LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSN.**  
Clay Peters Building, P. O. Box 1429, RENO, NEVADA
- **NORTHWEST LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSN.**  
631 Pacific Building, PORTLAND, OREGON
- **SOUTHERN IDAHO PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSN.**  
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO
- **UTAH LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATION**  
206 Dooly Building, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
- **WYOMING PRODUCTION CREDIT ASSOCIATION**  
Wyoming National Bank Building, CASPER, WYOMING

## **THE PRODUCTION CREDIT SYSTEM**

**BENEFITS for Members Rather  
Than PROFITS for LENDERS!**

*Friendly and Confidential  
Analysis of Credit Needs  
Without Obligation.*

wool actually may vary depending upon the use to be made of the particular wool or the plant in which it is scoured.

Following is a hypothetical case of how the shrinkage reports may differ on a lot of 100 pounds of grease wool, yet the pure wool content is the same:

	Core Test 14 percent Non-wool	Scouring Plant If 18 percent Non-wool
Pure Wool .....	40.0 lbs.	40.0 lbs.
Impurities & Moisture	6.5 "	8.8 "
Reported Yield .....	46.5 %	48.8 %
Reported Shrinkage	53.5 %	51.2 %

The core test for the lot shows a shrinkage of 53.5 percent based upon 14 percent of non-wool content. The moisture and impurities left by the scouring plant, however, totaled 18 percent so that scouring process shows a shrinkage of 51.2 percent. Wool producers should remember this point in comparing scouring plant results with shrinkages previously determined by core test.

## F.S. Range Improvements

THE Forest Service spent \$575,682 during fiscal year 1950 for the construction of range fences, livestock driveways and livestock watering places on national forests, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported March 5, 1951.

Walt L. Dutton, chief of the Forest Service's Division of Range Management, stated that this expenditure built 584 miles of range fences, 48 miles of livestock driveways and 558 water developments. This brings the total constructional range improvement work of the Forest Service to more than 27,000 miles of fences, 3,500 miles of driveways and 16,000 water developments in good repair. Mr. Dutton values those now in use, including the 1950 improvements, at close to \$16,500,000.

These figures do not include the construction carried on through the years by the stockmen's associations. These neighborhood groups, which number approximately 800, annually vote on maintenance of certain improvements, assessing members according to size of their herds.

The Forest Service also spent additional amounts on range reseeding and eradica-

tion of poisonous plants. In 1950 the Forest Service reseeded 62,986 acres of range land at a total cost of \$680,400. Since the revegetation program has been in effect, the Forest Service has seeded 333,650 acres at a cumulative cost of \$2,466,841. This averages approximately \$7.40 an acre.

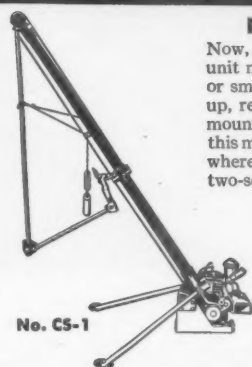
Future plans for range improvement and revegetation call for the reseeding of about 4,000,000 acres of range land; construction of 30,000 miles of fence, 23,000 range water developments, 9,500 miles of stock driveways; and control of poisonous and undesirable plants on 439,000 acres of range and of rodents on 15,000,000 acres. This program will be carried out as funds become available.

Mr. Dutton states that increased reseeding of the range during the next 15 years is authorized under provisions of the Anderson-Mansfield Act, passed by Congress a year ago. The act authorizes expenditures on a graduated scale, increasing from \$1,500,000 in fiscal year 1951 to a maximum of \$3,000,000 in 1955, with a like amount for each year through 1965.

Appropriations under the Anderson-Mansfield Act for fiscal year 1951 totaled only a little more than \$700,000.

—U.S.D.A. Release

## Sunbeam STEWART SHEARING EQUIPMENT... Dependable, Long Lasting



No. CS-1

### PORTABLE MACHINE

Now, a lightweight, compact single-unit machine equally good for large or small flocks. Easy-to-handle. Set up, ready to go in minutes. Special mountings give rigid stability—use this machine on ground or floor, anywhere sheep can be shorn. Has 67" two-section jointed shafts, 4 cycle air-cooled engine. **No. CS-1** (Less handpiece and grinder) \$170.00. (Denver and West, \$174.00.)

### Grinder Attachment

Complete grinder for CS-1 Machine. Does perfect job of sharpening. **No. CS-1G** \$46.75. (Denver and West, \$49.00.)

### MACHINES

#### without engine or motor

Use your own engine or motor with this clutch bracket shearing gear. At right is one mounted on a simple, easily constructed stand. Can also be placed on wall or post. Low initial cost. Uses flat or V-belt. Complete with clutch bracket, E-B Handpiece, combs, cutters and choice of shafts. **No. VB-2** (illustrated) with 3-section 126" shaft, \$88.00. (Denver and West, \$89.50.)

**No. VB-1** with 2-section, 67" shaft, \$76.50. (Denver and West, \$78.00.)

**No. VB-3** with 2-section, 42" shaft, \$76.50. (Denver and West, \$78.00.)



No. VB-2

### Special Combs and Cutters Available for Wide Handpieces



No. 44V-1

### WYOMING SPECIAL COMB

Special, 11-tooth high runner protective comb for use on Wyoming Special handpiece only. \$4.25 each.



No. 41-V

### WYOMING SPECIAL CUTTER

Special, 3-point, wide throw cutter for use on Wyoming Special handpiece only. \$0.65 each.

### SW—PROTECTIVE COMB

Leaves enough stubble to protect sheep from cold, storms, sunburn. Teeth with medium siled runners alternate with teeth of standard shape. **No. SW Protective Comb**, \$3.00.



SW

### AAA CUTTER

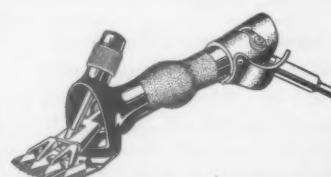
Finest cutter made. Cutter teeth mesh with comb teeth to produce more efficient cutting angles for faster, cleaner shearing. **No. 34AB, AAA Cutter**, \$0.75 ea.

**AAA Thin Heel Cutter**. Streamlined. When new, enters wool like worn cutter. **No. 93CC**, \$0.75 ea.



34AB

### STEWART "SUNBEAM" HANDPIECE



This new handpiece lets you shear up to 50% more sheep with same tools. Operates with lighter tension, runs at 25% greater speed. Pays for itself in saving of time and tools. **No. X70**, \$37.50.

Sunbeam CORPORATION • (formerly Chicago Flexible Shaft Company) • Dept. 65 5600 W. Roosevelt Rd., Chicago 30, Ill.

# Lamb Marketing in March

**M**ARCH was another month of new record prices on both woolled and shorn slaughter lambs. Factors in the continuing upturns in slaughter lamb prices were small receipts at the twelve large markets; demand at eastern dressed markets, especially in view of the low stocks on hang-rails; and the demand and prices for wool pelts. So good was the market that the custom prevalent on many past occasions of discounting heavier lambs, was ignored.

Good and choice woolled slaughter lambs sold during the month mostly from \$37 to \$42.50. The latter all-time record price was reached on the Chicago market on March 22nd with \$42.25 paid at Omaha the same day. Medium and good woolled slaughter lambs sold during the month in a \$36 to \$40.50 price range. Good and choice spring lambs on the markets during March sold from \$36.50 to \$38.00.

Good and choice lambs with No. 1 and fall-shorn pelts (between  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch wool growth, as compared to a full wool pelt of over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches) sold during March from \$32.25 to \$38.25.

Prices between \$21 and \$24.25 were paid for most of the good and choice slaughter ewes offered on the markets. Cull to medium kinds cleared mostly at \$14 to \$21.

Feeder and shearing lambs went back to the country in a \$31 to \$41 price range. A lot of 102-pound lambs sold on the Omaha market to go to a feedlot at \$39.50. Shorn feeder lambs sold during the month mostly from \$31 to \$36.75.

Short-term to solid-mouth breeding ewes sold from \$29 to \$45 per head. Some bred yearling ewes sold from \$43 to \$47 per head. Aged ewes with lambs sold during the month at \$45 to \$48 per pair.

brought \$34 to \$35 per hundred.

A band of approximately 5000 spring lambs was contracted around the first of March in the Chutes River Valley area of Oregon at \$39.50 per hundred for September delivery. They were of Lincoln and Rambouillet breeding and approximately half are ewe lambs. The latter were reported contracted to a southern Idaho breeder at \$45. Reports also indicate that a \$40.50 bid on another similar band of mixed ewe and wether lambs was refused. The main factor in those deals was the

securing of the ewe lambs. Approximately 1300 black and whiteface wether lambs in Morrow County, Oregon, were contracted for September delivery at \$32. Some 600 aged ewes were reported contracted in Wheeler County, Oregon, at \$20 per head for September delivery. Approximately 1000 head of spring lambs were contracted in Umatilla County, Oregon, at \$32.75 for fall delivery.

Sales of fed lambs in the Yakima, Washington, area, for immediate delivery, were  
(Continued on page 28)

## LAMB DISH OF THE MONTH



Broiled lamb kidney on pineapple rings.

## Country Sales—Contracting

### PACIFIC COAST

**T**WO bands of California spring lambs totaling 4600 head were contracted around the first of March in the San Joaquin Valley, about half for late March delivery at \$36 fat basis with the balance later at growers' option at \$35. A few strings of lamb in California's Mojave Desert were contracted for June delivery at \$33.50. In the Sacramento Valley spring lambs for late April to June delivery

Hot Spiced Apple Juice  
Broiled Lamb Kidneys On Pineapple Rings  
Scrambled Eggs  
Toast Preserves Butter or Margarine  
Coffee Milk

### BROILED LAMB KIDNEY ON PINEAPPLE RING

1 pound lamb kidneys  
Salt  
Pepper  
Pineapple slices  
Butter or margarine

Remove membrane from lamb kidneys. Brush with melted butter or margarine. Place on broiler rack and insert in broiler with top surface of the meat about 2 inches from the source of heat. Broil about 10 minutes until brown and crisp. Season. Arrange pineapple slices on broiler rack and brush with butter or margarine. Arrange a kidney on each pineapple slice, browned side down. Continue broiling until done, about 10 minutes.

HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT,  
NATIONAL LIVE STOCK AND MEAT BOARD



### Feeding livestock through the soil

When the Albert Schindlers bought a farm near Centralia, Missouri, in 1938, cash cropping had starved the soil. The farm was producing less than 20 bushels of corn or oats per acre. Albert decided he would have to feed the soil before he could feed livestock.

"I tried clover, but it wouldn't catch, so I started treating about 20 acres each year and now every field has had at least one application of lime and rock phosphate. Next, I quit cash cropping and began feeding everything to livestock." When a complete fertility testing service was started a few years ago by the County Agent, Schindler was one of the first to bring in his soil samples. He now uses 500 to 600 lbs. of high-test fertilizers to the acre for corn, and the residual boost often doubles his oat yields the following year.

Albert's program is paying off. The land will grow legumes now. He has 60 acres of improved pastures, using red clover and ladino in combination with other grasses. The average of his last three corn crops has been 107 bushels per acre.

With this steady increase in feed production, he is now handling 28 beef cows and their calves, 50 additional feeders, 100 ewes, and 12 sows that farrow twice a year. In 1938 he handled only 10 beef cows, 40 ewes, and 5 sows. Last year he marketed a 130%

lamb crop in June, averaging 75 lbs., and the ewes averaged 11 lbs. of wool. He also markets over 7 pigs per litter, usually weighing from 215 to 230 lbs. at 6 months. The heifer calves are put on a full feed of clover hay and corn, and marketed in the spring. His steer calves are wintered on roughage and a small amount of grain. After low cost gains on good pasture the following spring, they are fed corn on pasture beginning in July or August and marketed in the fall weighing around 1,000 lbs.

This productive 220-acre farm reflects hard work and a sound plan that started with the soil. Besides feeding the soil and livestock, this family finds time to take an active part in church activities and farm organization work. The Schindlers, their good farm, and their modern home help make their community a better place in which to live.



MEAT PACKERS AND PROVISIONERS

Chicago • Kansas City • Los Angeles • Oklahoma City • Albert Lea  
Omaha • Denver • Cedar Rapids • Dethan • Memphis

### PULLING TOGETHER FOR GREATER SERVICE AND MUTUAL BENEFIT



at \$30.50 for four lots of 107-pound averages, with No. 1 and 2 skins and \$31.50 for a few lots of similar weights with No. 1 skins. Approximately eight lots of 108- to 110-pound fed shorn lambs with No. 1 pelts were sold in the Granger, Washington, area for immediate delivery to West Coast packers at \$32.50.

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

Around 8000 lambs in the Medicine Bow, Wyoming, section were reported sold at \$33 and the same price was reported paid in the Casper area. Some unconfirmed sales were rumored at \$34 to \$35. No description of these lambs or delivery date is shown in the report coming to this office.

In Colorado it is reported that some 2-year-old breeding ewes which sold last December at \$40 per head and later brought \$50, now have bids of \$60.

A few small lots of good full-wooled

lambs in southern Utah were sold at \$35 and a few others carrying No. 2 and 3 pelts brought \$33 for immediate delivery.

In the Stanford, Montana, area 1200 whiteface wether lambs for fall delivery sold at \$32. In the White Sulphur Springs section of Montana 3000 blackfaced yearling ewes, out of the wool, for July delivery, brought \$35 per head. At Harlowton, Montana, 900 mixed black and white-faced lambs were contracted for fall delivery at \$35.

### WEST TEXAS

Five hundred mixed lambs were contracted at \$32.50 for fall delivery; 1300 yearling ewes were sold for \$30 for spring delivery.

### Early Lamb Crop Increases

ACCORDING to a report issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics out of Washington, D. C., March 8, the 1951 early lamb crop in the principal early lamb producing States is estimated to be about 2 percent larger than last year. This increase continued the upswing which began a year ago.

The larger early lamb crop reflects the increase in the number of breeding ewes. In each of the southeastern States, the number of lambs saved per 100 ewes is less than last year because of the cold, unfavorable weather in January and February. The proportion of ewes lambing before March in these States is slightly above a year ago. This increase, together with a somewhat larger number of breeding ewes, resulted in the slightly larger early lamb crop. Early lambs have made

excellent progress in the western States, but the cold, severe winter weather has slowed their development in the southeastern early lambing States. However, with the larger early crop, marketing of lambs before July 1 is also expected to be larger.

In the Pacific Northwest and in California and Arizona, weather and feed conditions have been very favorable for early lambing. Losses have been small, and lambs have made good growth. Hay and other feed supplies have generally been plentiful. In Texas, early lamb prospects are only fair. The winter drought has been broken only in the eastern plateau counties. Other sheep production areas in Texas are in need of additional moisture. However, losses in Texas have been light to date. Early lambs in Idaho are making good progress.

### Freight Rate Items

#### EX PARTE 175

Temporary increases in freight rates were granted to the railroads by the Interstate Commerce Commission on March 14. The order permits the railroads to increase their rates 4 percent in the East and 2 percent elsewhere. A limit of two cents per 100 pounds was placed on the increase on shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables, melons, lumber, sugar and canned or preserved food products; a 6 percent limit per net ton was placed on coal shipments.

The new rates will be in effect until the ICC gives the decision in Ex Parte 175 through which the roads seek a 6 percent increase in freight rates. (On March 23rd, the roads said they would amend their complaint and ask for a 15 percent increase.)

### Good Sheep Ranches

available now in Montana, Wyoming, and South Dakota. Tell us the size, location, and price that you're interested in and we will send full information.

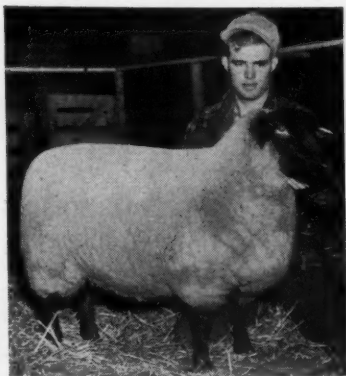


Drovers Bldg.

"at the  
Stockyards"

Denver 16,  
Colo.

### Every Good RAM had a Good MOTHER



"Lady Beau Geste"

The Beau Geste Farms Rams consigned to the 1951 Sales are closely related to this \$1010.00 Ewe lamb.

**Beau Geste Farms**

**Roy B. Warrick & Son**  
Oskaloosa, Iowa

### Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

Total U. S. Inspected	1951	1950
Slaughter, First Two months .....	1,797,680	1,941,000
Week Ended .....	Mar. 17	Mar. 18
Slaughter at 32 Centers .....	141,996	166,186
Chicago Average Lamb Prices (Wooled):		
Good and Choice .....	\$41.20	\$26.78
Medium and Good .....	39.55	25.80
New York Av. Western Dressed Lamb Prices:		
Choice, 45-50 pounds .....	57.90	51.90
Good, 45-50 pounds .....	57.60	50.10

### Federally Inspected Slaughter—February

	1951	1950
Cattle .....	887,448	938,975
Calves .....	374,435	443,225
Hogs .....	4,159,167	4,191,117
Sheep and Lambs .....	739,863	863,092

The National Wool Growers Association is preparing to oppose these increases by the submission of exhibits showing why the railroads are not entitled to them. Economic Stabilization officials are also reported as complaining that higher freight rates will upset their effort to keep commodity costs down, but the ICC has countered with the statement that they are required by law to authorize "just and reasonable rates," to make possible the efficient operation of the railroads, and cited wage increases as grounds for the present advance in rates.

#### FRESH MEAT CASES

Twenty-four formal actions on rates on fresh meats, eastbound, that is from the West to the Official Territory (north of the Ohio and Potomac Rivers and east of the Mississippi) have been filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission. Swift and Company has also filed formal complaint attacking the livestock rates from the West to all points in the Official Territory where their plants are located.

At a conference in Chicago on March 1 and 2, attended by President Steiwer and Secretary Jones of the National Wool Growers Association and representatives

of the American National Cattlemen's Association, the American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Livestock Producers Association, where these cases were considered, it was generally felt that the present was anything but an opportune time to push such complaints and as a result a request is being made of all the complainants that the cases be withdrawn. Representatives of Swift and Company, who were at the Chicago meeting, were urgently asked to consider the matter of withdrawal as the litigation started by their complaint might involve the livestock industry in a very lengthy and expensive case without too successful an outcome.

To present this matter to the heads of the companies who are parties to the 24 fresh meat cases and the one livestock case, a meeting was held on March 19, 1951, in Chicago. It is the hope of the representatives of the livestock industry that, without going into the technical side of the cases, the complainants can be convinced, from the standpoint of policy, that withdrawal of the complaints at this time is desirable.

#### HAVE YOUR FREIGHT BILLS AUDITED

All members of the National Wool Growers Association and its twelve State affiliates may have their freight bills audited by the Association's Traffic Manager, Charles E. Blaine, 900 Title and Trust Building, Phoenix, Arizona. Send Mr. Blaine your freight rate bills, livestock contracts, and any other pertinent information and if justified Mr. Blaine will file claim for any amounts due you for overcharges, damages, etc.

During 1950 a total of \$22,569.85 was collected in such claims for livestockmen by Mr. Blaine. The total included overcharges, loss and damage, right-of-way and reparation claims. Pending at the end of the year were unpaid claims amounting to \$21,133.06.

The usual rate of charge for this service is 50 percent of the amounts collected. For Association members the fee is only 25 percent of the amount collected. Take advantage of this service!

#### YOUR FREIGHT CARS SHOULD BE ORDERED EARLY

Since there undoubtedly will be a severe shortage of practically all classes of freight cars, Traffic Manager Charles E. Blaine makes the timely suggestion that shippers order cars in writing as far in advance as possible.

#### RECORD IN OGDEN GATEWAY CASE NOT TO BE REOPENED

The Interstate Commerce Commission on March 15th denied the Union Pacific's request to have the record in the Ogden Gateway Case reopened to include two statements made by Senator Edwin C. Johnson of Colorado, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, which they allege intimidated the Commission.

The case will now proceed according to regular custom. The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad will file, before May 1st, its reply to the exceptions to the examiner's report already filed by the Union Pacific. After that the case will be set for oral argument before the Commission and then the Commission will issue its decision.

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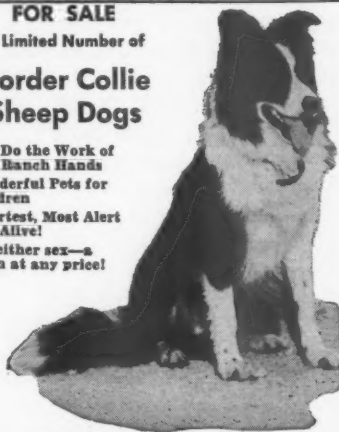
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MACCARTHY & SONS, D. P.  
Salem, Oregon

POOLES' MAGIC VALLEY  
HAMPSHIRE

Rte. 3, Jerome, Idaho

ROCK AND SON, P. J.  
Drumheller, Alta, Canada

TEDMON LIVESTOCK  
Rte. 3, Ft. Collins, Colorado

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Rupert, Idaho

HORN, JOSEPH  
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LAIDLAW & SONS, INC., JAMES  
Muldoon, Idaho

MEULEMAN & SONS, HARRY  
Rupert, Idaho, Rte 1

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Cedar City, Utah

CHRISTENSEN & SONS, F. R.  
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CUNNINGHAM SHEEP CO.  
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HANSEN, WYNN S.  
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PFISTER, THOS., & SONS  
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BURTON, T. B.  
Cambridge, Idaho

CURRY, S. E.  
Plainview, Texas

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FULLMER BROS.  
Star Route, Menan, Idaho

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HALL, WILLIAM C.  
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HUBBARD, WALTER P.  
Junction City, Oregon

LAIDLAW & SONS, INC., JAMES  
Muldoon, Idaho

MURDOCK, A. F. & S. A.  
Driggs, Idaho

PEMBROKE, RALPH  
Big Lake, Texas

PIGGOT, D. R.  
McMurdo, Golden, B. C., Canada

ROCK & SONS, P. J.  
Drumheller, Alta, Canada

SUFFOLKDALE MEADOWS  
Ilderton, Ontario, Canada

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Dixon, California

VAUGHN, HOWARD  
Dixon, California

WADDELL, DAVE  
Amity, Oregon

WANKIER, FARRELL T.  
Levan, Utah

WINN, R. E.  
Nephi, Utah

## TARGHEES

HUGHES LIVESTOCK CO., INC.  
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Node, Wyoming

## Weathering of Wool

(Continued from page 13)

India show that the wool grown in the hot areas is mostly dry with a "canary" stain, whereas fleeces from the Hill Districts are white, supple and lustrous during the same season. Even wool grown in the same area shows a contrasting appearance and character during the summer heat and the winter months. In the first case the wool is yellow with a brashy look and a thickened tip, while in the second case the wool shows a desirable white color, uniformity of thickness and a lustrous appearance.

Taenzer (4) during his studies on the effect of light on wool fibers noted that the fiber tips were beardy and coarse particularly in the summer wool. He further states that the wool of the sheep of Davos (Graubunden District of Switzerland) indicates that during the summer the staple is injured, primarily by the intense sunlight. In another publication the author finds evidence in the literature that heat, aridity and dust have an injurious effect upon wool while moisture causes an increased elasticity. Increases in temperature under artificial conditions cause a decrease in strength, extensibility and weight of wool, and temperatures above 100 degrees Centigrade generally cause a change in color. Wool is injured by brief heating at 150 degrees Centigrade and by prolonged heating up to 50 degrees Centigrade.

The exact nature of the damage caused by frost alone is unknown. Frost probably causes a degreasing of the wool fibers which renders them susceptible to other factors such as wind and sunlight. A frost bitten fleece usually has a frowsy appearance, lacks grease and the fibers are tender and have a harsh feel.

High winds intensify the action of other factors such as temperature and sunlight. The exact nature of the damage by wind alone has not been worked out. High winds increase the penetration of sand and dust and have a degreasing effect which results in a gritty fleece.

The effect of sunlight on the fleece is probably one of the most important factors in the weathering of wool and is closely tied up with the manufacturing processes. Lobner (5) appears to have been the first to comment on the effect of light in altering the properties of wool. Since that time numerous tests have shown that the chief cause of sunlight damage is in its ultraviolet rays. Von Bergen (6) carried on the first thorough investigation on the effect of light on wool. He found that

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MONDAY, APRIL 30 - - - - - MAY 1, TUESDAY

(Far Western Sheep Dog Trials, Wool Show, Sheep Show, Sunday April 29)

California State Fair Grounds — Sacramento, California

This year, more than ever before **QUALITY** counts { WRITE FOR CATALOG } California Wool Growers Assn.  
151 Mission St.  
San Francisco 5, California

wools from the back and shoulder of the sheep which are exposed to light, dye unevenly while the wools from the belly dye evenly and concludes that this difference in dyeing is directly associated with exposure to sunlight. Examination in polarized light revealed that the tips of the fibers from the back and shoulder showed a degree of structural breakdown not found in corresponding belly wool samples. The fact that uneven dyeing or uniform dyeing was due to strong or weak sunlight was confirmed by other tests by exposing staples to sunlight under artificial conditions.

### Effect of Soil

The effect of soil on wool is possibly due to the direct effect of different types of soil on the physical wool fiber and the indirect effect through the pasturage. Alkaline soils are supposed to cause a deterioration of wool and grasses grown on lime-rich soils produce a harsh, rugged wool. A loamy soil is supposed to enhance the luster, length and weight of wool. It is a common belief that the sulfates of sodium and magnesium, which make up the so-called white alkali so widely distributed in the western States, are responsible for the brittleness and harshness of wool from these areas. Experimental evidence showed that soaking wool in a cold solution of lime water removes a measurable amount of free sulfur but the strength and elasticity of the fiber is not appreciably altered. Even though it has not been possible to show any wool damage by saturation with an alkaline solution under artificial conditions, it appears certain that whatever alkali

there may be in the soil settles upon the fleece in the dust and works down into it.

Sand particles blow into the fleece and cause it to become harsh and gritty. Very greasy wools tend to contain less dust than less greasy wools but not if the dust is lighter in specific gravity than wool fat. This is the case with grey soils and gives a false indication of yield. Some wools retain the sand more easily than others and light colored sands give an impression of a lighter shrinking wool than darker colored ones.

The effect of soil minerals on the wool through the pasturage is an important factor and up to the present not too much is known. Deficiency of minerals and a tie-up of mineral metabolism by an excess of certain minerals such as selenium have a marked effect on the visual characters of the fleece, and the sheep is very unthrifty. A lack of sulfur in the soil is known to cause a deficiency in the sulfur content of the wool which shows weakness and harshness. A condition known as stringy or steely wool which occurs in Western Australia is said to be caused by a copper or cobalt deficiency. This condition is indicated by a straight, lusterless or steely appearance of the wool which is very striking, particularly in crispy wools which lose all of their crimp along a portion or sometimes all of the fiber.

### Preventative Measures to Combat Weathering of Wool

The prevention of weathering of wool, although not fully investigated, can be tackled in the following ways:

1. Selective breeding of sheep to increase the tightness of the fleece and the free-flowing oil of the fleece, while retaining a desirable length and clean fleece weight.
2. Occasional dipping of the sheep with a suitable material which would protect the tips of the fleece and exclude foreign material such as dust and sand.
3. Covering the sheep with a coat or rug to protect the fleece from sunlight, wind, sand and dirt, and at the same time protect the sheep from the weather and conserve its body energy which then goes into wool fiber rather than in maintaining body heat. It is the same idea as in the wearing of an overcoat over a waistcoat. One can get along with a waistcoat without an overcoat but it takes a lot of body energy and heat, which is conserved by the insulation and protection of the overcoat.

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## ATTENTION

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### SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR CONVENTIONS AND MEETINGS

July 10: Arizona Wool Growers Association, Flagstaff, Arizona.

August 22-23: Executive Committee, National Wool Growers Association, and Council of Directors, American Wool Council, Salt Lake City, Utah.

October 31-November 1: California Wool Growers Association, San Francisco, California.

November 5-6: Washington Wool Growers Association, Yakima, Washington.

November 8-10: Idaho Wool Growers Association, Boise, Idaho.

November 15-17: Wyoming Wool Growers Association, Worland, Wyoming.

December 3: Oregon Wool Growers Association, Portland, Oregon.

December 4-7: National Wool Growers Association, Portland, Oregon.

#### SHOWS AND SALES

April 29: Annual California Wool Show, Sacramento, California.

April 29: Far Western International Sheep Dog Championship Trials, Sacramento, California.

April 30-May 1: California Ram Sale, Sacramento, California.

May 22: Pacific International Lamb Show, North Portland, Oregon.

June 11: Warrick & Rock Suffolk Stud Ram & Ewe Sale, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

July 9-11: Registered Rambouillet Ram Show & Sale, San Angelo, Texas.

July 23: Northern Colorado Hampshire Breeders Sale, Greeley, Colorado.

July 24: All American Corriedale Show and Sale, Greeley, Colorado.

August 1: Idaho Ram Sale, Filer, Idaho.

August 13: Beau Geste Farms Suffolk & Hampshire Ram & Ewe Sale, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

August 17: Oregon Ram Sale, Pendleton, Oregon.

August 20-21: National Ram Sale, Salt Lake City, Utah.

August 25: Sanpete Ram Sale, Ephraim, Utah.

September 18-19: Wyoming Ram Sale, Casper, Wyoming.

September 22: Idaho Range Ram Sale, Pocatello, Idaho.

September 22: Columbia & Suffolk Sheep Sale, Milan, Mo.

September 27: U. S. Sheep Experiment Station Sale, Dubois, Idaho.

October 26-November 4: Grand National Livestock Exposition, San Francisco, California.

### 1950 Wool Clip

**T**OTAL wool production of the United States in 1950 is figured by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics as 252,535,000 pounds of shorn and pulled wool. The shorn wool total is given as 220,135,000 pounds, which is slightly higher than the preliminary estimate of 218,239,000 pounds last August and about 1.5 percent larger than the 1949 total. Average weight per fleece was given as 8.11 percent for 1950.

In the 13 Western States, 1950 production was 162,199,000 pounds of shorn wool and the average fleece weight, 8.41 pounds. Production was 1.2 percent higher than in 1949.

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**Hereford Cattle and Corriedale Sheep  
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**BED BLANKETS**

**RANCHWEAR**

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**PORTLAND 4, OREGON**

# THE *Auxiliaries*



## Lady of Golden Hoof Farms\*

By BERT KRUGER SMITH

UP at the Golden Hoof Farms in Coleman County, Texas, a vivacious, stylish red-headed woman, as she busily prepares refreshments for one hundred guests, is making up a speech for the Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association meeting. This multi-faceted lady is Chrystene Vance, new president of the National Wool Growers Association Auxiliary, elected at the December meeting.

A lifetime of training has gone into making Chris Vance an outstanding worker in the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association and the National Wool Growers Association and a most efficient hostess and public relations woman at Golden Hoof Farms.

The youngest of a family of eight, Chrystene Trowbridge was born in Floyd County, Texas, of an ambitious pioneer father and hard-working mother. Chris, who loved the farm, took her degree in home economics from the University of Oklahoma and became county home demonstration agent in Coleman County. There she met J. W. Vance, an A & M graduate and master farmer.

There is nothing ordinary about the Vances, even their romance. J, a widower, invited the pretty home demonstration agent to come up to Golden Hoof Farms and help him plan furnishings for the eight-room pink granite home under construction. That was the beginning. Within a few months, in December of 1940, they were married, and Chris had a new job, running the house and helping to care for J's eight-year-old Kenneth.

J, considered one of the most successful farmers in the state of Texas uses a combination of ranch and farm operations. All the land is terraced. Tanks provide plenty of water. There are 1200 acres, 800 in cultivation. J plants small grains for winter grazing and sudan grass and sweet clover for spring, summer and fall pasture. He has registered polled Herefords, and he and Kenneth keep small flocks of regis-

tered Suffolk and Corriedale sheep.

Chris' job consists of running the house and acting as hostess to the multitude of guests who visit the Golden Hoof Farms. And as one of her friends puts it, "Chris can do everything. She manages beautifully, but we don't think it's quite fair. We do all her worrying for her."

Set high on a hill, the Vance home would delight any city dweller. Flowered draperies, rose carpeting, deep-freeze lockers, and built-in closets make the home both comfortable and attractive. The yard stays green all year-round. Chris keeps a lovely flower garden and often entertains at her outdoor circular table.

J's portion of the farm is as up-to-date as Chris'. He has built all-brick barns, which serve the double purpose of a place for livestock and storage for feed. The corrals and machine sheds, all brick, are kept as neatly as the home. Besides the equipment shed, J has a small knotty pine room, complete with built-in desk and comfortable chairs—his "dog house."

The Vances have recently gone into the polled Hereford business in a big way. This year they bred 31 of their horned Hereford cows to a polled bull of Gill breeding and got a 100 percent crop of polled calves. They sold the bottom 10 heifer calves to Shorty Bouis at \$750 a head. This is an almost unheard of sale for people just going into the business. This, of course, has excited Chris, and she is going into the personnel work of the cattle business with the same ardor as the wool industry dynamo she has created around herself.

Their son, Ken, is 18-years-old (19 in April) and is a student at Tarleton State College, Stephenville, Texas, majoring in animal husbandry.

Chris was instrumental in forming the County Auxiliary there in Coleman. It is known as the Women's Auxiliary of the Coleman County Breeder Feeders and the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association.



National Auxiliary President, Mrs. J. W. Vance ("Chris" to her legion of friends).

She has also served as president of that organization.

With J as director of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association, Chris attended her first quarterly meeting in March of 1941. She soon learned the importance of pushing the wool industry. She served as second vice president, first vice president, and then as president of the Texas Auxiliary and attended her initial national convention in Salt Lake City in January of 1948. There she captured runner-up honors for "Queen of the Woolies," and appeared on radio shows. In February of 1949, at the National Wool Growers' Convention, she was elected first vice president, serving on the advisory board with the president, Mrs. Clell Lung of Yakima, Washington.

Faced with the duties of president of the National Wool Growers Association Auxiliary in addition to her other work, Chris regards the new year with the same effervescent enthusiasm that she gives to all her work.

"Our function," she says, green eyes sparkling, "is to coordinate the efforts of States in promoting wool."

She leans forward and adds earnestly, "It is terribly important, you know. The wool people have to get behind their own product and promote it. We are always hearing that other materials 'wear like wool.' Well, why not use wool?"

Chris Vance, a woman who brings freshness and energy to every undertaking, will undoubtedly inspire a lot of people to "wear, use, and talk wool" during the coming year.

\*From Farm and Ranch, Southern Agriculturist, February, 1951.

# What The Auxiliaries Did In 1950!

Reports Made at National Convention, December 7, 1950, Casper, Wyoming

## Colorado

This past year the Colorado Auxiliary has devoted its energies mainly towards the "Make It Yourself-With Wool" sewing contest. Our Governor proclaimed October 2nd to the 8th as "Make It Yourself-With Wool" Week for the entire State, for the third consecutive year. Stores were cooperative with appropriate windows. It was gratifying to find the smaller towns were interested in this week and the contest generally.

Colorado Woman's College of Denver had a MIYWW sewing class for which they gave college credit this year for the first time. This made it possible for their students to sew under supervision of their Home Economics Director, Miss Claire Toy, whether they were home economics students or not. This same college also gave a Grant of Aid, good for two years valued at \$300.00 Miss Toy was also chairman of the Denver area contest and the school held the elimination at their college, giving a luncheon free of charge to contestants and friends, also judges and others cooperating in the district.

In the contest, the State is divided into seven districts, each having its elimination and selecting three garments to be sent to State finals. A total of 175 girls in the contest throughout the State participated in 1950.

Our State membership totals 140 members and is represented by five chapters, and members at large.

Other promotions carried on have been "Catch-It" contests in local areas and of course the awarding of blankets for the 4-H Club woolen garments at the State Fair, which has been our custom for eight years now. We also make one award for the best woolen household article.

This year Mrs. Hixson, chairman for that area, entered a Colorado Wool Growers Auxiliary float at the State Fair. A beautiful trophy was won for the auxiliary for best float of towns under 2500 population. It was also shown at Ordway Watermelon Day and received a prize of \$10 which went into contest funds for the district.

Daniels & Fisher Stores gave the banquet for State contestants, parents, auxiliary members and men's association members and families. Our men's association gave liberally as did several other affiliated com-

panies. Each local men's association sponsored the contest in their local districts.

Both the auxiliary and the men's association believe the sewing contest is a good public relations program, but would like to see the program set up with a director in the Middle West, where the contest could be directed in closer range to the



A Wool Bureau "conversation piece" for spring and summer is "cloud-light" wool. It is shown above in the smart and well-tailored suit of virgin wool worsted—just right for spring's most unpredictable weather.

—Wool Bureau Photo

activity, thereby relieving individual members in each State a lot of detail work.

—Mrs. Ival Young, President

## Idaho

It is gratifying to us to be able to report for Idaho a very successful year. This was made possible because of the fine cooperation and work of our eighty-nine auxiliary members, and the help of our Idaho Wool Growers.

The project for the year 1950 was our "Make It Yourself-With Wool Contest." For this the State was divided into four areas, each district being under the capable leadership of one of our vice presidents.

The first week of August was spent traveling through part of the State with Miss Mary North from The Wool Bureau. We attended a convention of the Homemaking Teachers of Idaho at Sun Valley. We also contacted stores and made arrangements in each town for furthering our contest.

The elimination contests were held simultaneously in each area on November 4th with 68 girls and 74 garments entered. After the style revue in each area the girls and their mothers or chaperones were entertained by various groups. Best garments in all divisions received a dress length and all other contestants were given a lovely compact in appreciation of their efforts.

Our State convention was held in Pocatello, November 12th to 14th. The visiting women were delightfully entertained and the Style Show was a highlight of the luncheon. The winners were awarded their prizes at the banquet that evening in the Hotel Bannock. The Auxiliary business meeting was well attended and much enthusiasm and interest was shown in our contest for the ensuing year. Plans were made for a membership drive.

—Mrs. Earl S. Wright, President

## Montana

(Mrs. W. L. Barrett, president of the Montana Auxiliary, reports that due to the size of their State they must conduct their "Make It Yourself-With Wool" contest a little differently. They do not find it advisable to have style shows to eliminate the contestants because it would not be fair to

disqualify girls just because they could not reach an area elimination. They judge the girls first on sewing and then take the best ones to the State convention where the final judging is made.

It is gratifying to note that before the contest was set up in our State, the teachers and 4-H leaders did not teach sewing in wool and their interest is increasing rapidly through the introduction of the "Make It Yourself-With Wool" contest. Our only concern is the increase in price of woolen materials. We are afraid the parents will not be willing to buy material for their girls unless they are expert sewers. This might eliminate a lot of contestants who do not sew very well but might increase the quality of their sewing.

With Mrs. Louis Udem in charge of the western part of the State and Mrs. Ed. Whitworth as a co-worker in the southeastern part of Montana, we did a very nice job of promoting the contest and the use of wool last year.

Our organization is only four years old and already we have 75 members. The Finance Committee is headed by Mrs. Leroy Gilsinger of Augusta and the new year finds us in good shape financially.

We feel the visits of the girls who come to our contest finals go a long way to contributing to good will between the consumers and producers of our products. You can not buy this kind of advertising.

—Mrs. W. L. Barrett, Past President

## Oregon

The Oregon Auxiliary, one of the most aggressive groups in the organization, at this time has two active chapters. Our big problem this past year was how to raise money to sponsor both the "Make It Yourself-With Wool" contest and to continue to give awards to the 4-H boys and girls as we have done in the past. We auctioned a ram at the Oregon Ram Sale. It was given to us by Mr. Paul Quimby of Halsey, Oregon, and receipts from its sale including donations amounted to \$1575. The Pendleton ladies helped with this sale. The Baker Chapter gave \$50.00 to the State contest.

We had 25 entries in our sewing contest this year and some lovely garments were displayed and modeled at the convention in Portland.

This year the Auxiliary gave the following awards:

State awards for Sewing	
and Dollar Dinner .....	\$110.00
Best Woolen Clothing exhibits	
at State Fair .....	53.50

Knitting (Merchandise	
Awards) .....	75.55
County awards for	
Dollar Dinner .....	155.00
Awards at the Pacific	
International .....	62.75
County awards for lamb	
projects .....	200.00

The following officers were unanimously elected for the coming year: Mrs. Floyd Fox, president; Mrs. Clint Lewis, vice president; Mrs. V. D. Scott, secretary and treasurer.

Mrs. Peter Obiague, Past President

## South Dakota

As with the other State auxiliaries, the chief project of the South Dakota ladies is the "Make It Yourself-With Wool" contest and the chief problems are the scattered population and raising funds to carry on the contest.

This past year the wool growers of South Dakota donated \$100 toward the contest and we had over 70 entries, double the number of any other year. This was the first year for district eliminations in the State and we hope each year will bring more girls into the contest. There were 13 girls in the State finals. We gave \$25 bonds, woolen yard goods and the trip to Casper as first prizes, all wool blankets as second prizes and pinking shears as third prizes. Each contestant received a jar of Botany lanolin cream.

The Western South Dakota Sheep Growers' Convention was held in Belle Fourche, November 8-9, and a bad storm the day before caused a drop in attendance. Mrs. Geraldine Heinbaugh brought her weaving exhibits to the convention and gave weaving demonstrations during the evenings. She also donated woven scarfs to the auxiliary for its booth.

—Mrs. John Widdoss

## Texas

The year 1950 was a most successful one for the Women's Auxiliary of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association. The major goal for the year was the participation in the fourth annual home sewing contest. Governor Allan Shivers graciously proclaimed a "Make It Yourself-With Wool and Mohair Week" the first week in October. We feel this proclamation was an inestimable aid in furthering our program of public education on the merits of the wool and mohair fiber. The Texas Auxiliary believes that its cooperation in

the contest has done much to enlighten the public and make the people of our State wool- and mohair-minded. We wish to express sincere appreciation to the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association and to the Texas Angora Goat Breeders Association for their generous contributions of money and for their splendid cooperation in making the sewing program a success.

The Weaving Center, located in Kerrville and sponsored by the Auxiliary, has continued its operation with part-time workers who are interested in the art of weaving. Orders for rugs, blankets, ties, and other products are being taken by the Center.

We donated a one hundred dollar savings bond to the winner of the 4-H Dress Revue.

Mrs. Dolph Briscoe, Jr., Past President

## Utah

The Utah Auxiliary had a stimulating year in 1949. Members of the Utah Wool Growers Association commended us highly on our participation in the home sewing contest where 103 girls participated and expressed the desire that we exert efforts toward lamb promotion for the coming year. We devoted our efforts to stimulating the use of cheaper cuts in temptingly appetizing and nutritious ways.

Our Governor proclaimed Lamb Week. Our newspapers printed recipes each day and pictures of the Governor's kitchen during preparation and serving of lamb. Posters were placed in restaurants and cafes urging people to order lamb dishes. Chefs cooperated by serving varied and new lamb dishes. Stickers were placed on menu cards calling attention to these. Radio programs on the nutritive value and uses of lamb were presented throughout the State. A television program showing the preparation of tasty lamb dishes was broadcast. The Mountain States Fuel and the Utah Power & Light companies conducted lamb cooking demonstrations to teach correct cooking methods. Home demonstration agents cooperated and planned school lunches using the cheaper cuts. Home economics teachers in some high schools and colleges stressed the use of lamb dishes. 4-H clubs were contacted. One town, Fountain Green, held its annual lamb barbeque and served 2,500 barbecued sandwiches to the public. Girl scouts tried out many new recipes on their outings.

In the "Make It Yourself-With Wool" sewing contest this past year we held eleven regional or district elimination con-

tests with about 230 girls participating. Sixty-seven finalists were chosen to come to the State contest last November. A "Charm School" was held for all contestants to the State finals with a full day spent in instructing the girls on proper hygiene, use of cosmetics, modeling, make-up, hair-styling, etc.

Our Utah Wool Growers Association and many other friends connected with the industry were very generous in their financial aid, which made our programs possible and successful.

—Mrs. Sterling M. Ercanbrack, President

## Washington

During the past two years we were very proud to have the National president and secretary-treasurer from Washington, Mrs. Clell Lung and Mrs. Leonard Longmire, respectively.

This past year we had 34 girls entering the contest and 29 competing in the State finals. Prizes were awarded all girls entering, there being several awards in the same division. Mrs. James Fletcher, Selah, was general chairman of the contest.

A luncheon honoring the contestants and judges was held in the Methodist Church, with seventy-five members, girls and judges attending. About three hundred people witnessed the style show. Prizes given consisted of wool dress yardage lengths, wool blankets, siesta robes, skirt lengths, and sewing kits. Prizes were furnished by stores of Yakima and woolen companies of Washington and Oregon.

The Ways and Means Committee had a very successful year as evidenced by the following report:

Raffle of Geronimo, the flying lamb .....	\$103.00
Raffle of a wool blanket .....	63.00
Lamburger booth .....	525.56
Cash donations .....	491.90
Food sales .....	40.00
Rummage sale .....	69.20
Botany cosmetics sold .....	51.56
	<hr/>
	\$1,344.22

We sponsored a wool booth at the Central Washington Fair in Yakima and operated a lamburger booth at the fair where ground lamb sandwiches were sold.

—Mrs. James Fletcher, President

## Wyoming

The Wyoming Auxiliary now consists of four active county chapters, namely, Rock

Springs, Rawlins, Casper and Buffalo. The Rock Springs Auxiliary has undertaken the sale of Botany cosmetics and will also raffle an afghan to raise money to help pay the expense of the contestants to the national style show. The Rawlins Auxiliary had hand painted sheep wagons which they sold at the National convention to help with their expenses. The Casper Auxiliary took over all arrangements for the National convention.

State awards in the sewing contest were \$50 savings bonds and expenses to the national style show, first prizes; \$25 savings bonds for second prizes and five prizes of \$25 savings bonds in the Junior Division. Three dress lengths of woolen material were awarded in the original design class. In addition, each of the contestants not winning one of the other awards was given a gift. We had 125 entries and 30 finalists this past year.

## \$15,000 in Awards for 1951 Contest

AWARDS totaling \$15,000 in U. S. Savings Bonds, merchandise and scholarships will be given in the 1951 "Make It Yourself—With Wool" home sewing contest, the Wool Bureau made known on March 8th. This is the fifth consecutive year for this contest, which is sponsored jointly by the Wool Bureau and the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association.

The annual competition is designed to foster skill and fashion knowledge through the art of home sewing with virgin wool fabrics in the preparation of coats, suits and dresses. Girls 14 through 17 years old are eligible to compete in the Junior Class, and girls 18 through 22 in the Senior Class. States in which local, regional and State contests will be held include California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

### National Finals at Portland, Oregon

The National Finals will be a highlight of the 87th Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association to be held at Portland, Oregon, December 5 to 7. Competition will conclude with a National Fashion Revue in which State winners will model their own creations for prizes to be awarded by a judging panel of fashion and home sewing experts.

National awards in the 1951 contest are as follows:

State membership is approximately 175 members at this time.

—Mrs. Reynold Seaverson, President

## Wool and Mohair Festival

THE Hill Country Chapter of the Women's Auxiliary of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association and the Lion's Club of Kerrville are sponsoring a statewide wool and mohair festival to be held at Kerrville during the second week of September. Plans for the affair were made at a meeting of the executive committees of both groups in that city on January 24th. The event will feature various displays pertaining to the wool and mohair industry as well as commercial displays, a carnival and various sports events.

**Grand Prize** for best garment in all divisions of Senior Class—\$300 scholarship by Forstmann Woolen Company.

**Grand Prize** for best garment in all divisions of Junior Class—\$300 scholarship by Pendleton Woolen Mills.

### Junior Class

First Place — A Singer Featherweight Portable Sewing Machine by Singer Sewing Machine Co.

Second Place—\$100 Savings Bond by John Walther Fabrics, Inc.

Third Place—\$100 Savings Bond by Millridge Woolen Company, Inc.

### Senior Class

First Place—A Singer Mahogany Console Sewing Machine by Singer Sewing Machine Co.

Second Place — \$100 Savings Bond by Botany Mills, Inc.

Third Place—\$100 Savings Bond by The Wool Bureau, Inc.

**Special Scholarship Award** — A \$500 scholarship award by Colorado Woman's College to a participant in the National Fashion Show whose home sewing skill and academic standing in high school is adjudged to be outstanding. The award is open only to National Fashion Show participants between 17 and 19 years of age, and who have graduated from high school not later than 12 months previous to the close of the 1951 "Make It Yourself—With Wool" Contest.

The National Wool Grower

# AROUND *the* RANGE COUNTRY

Around the Range Country gives our readers a chance to express their opinions about anything pertaining to the industry or about life in general. In offering this space for free expression of thought, the National Wool Grower assumes no responsibility for any statement made.

## ARIZONA

**Glendale, Maricopa County**  
March 17, 1951

Most of the wool has been contracted in this area with 12 months' wool going at from 85 cents to \$1.25 a pound. Fat

lambs have been contracted at 35 cents. Shearing is completed in this section with shearers receiving 42 cents without board in comparison with 30 cents last year. The contract includes shearing, tying and sack-ing.

Range feed had been very dry until February 1st when we had one good rain followed by cold weather. My sheep have wintered very well on pasture feed. Alfalfa hay, baled, is \$35 a ton.

Lambing is over in this section (we lamb during November and December) and we saved about 10 percent less than in 1950, although we had splendid weather and plenty of help this year.

—Oscar Gibson

## COLORADO

**Montrose, Montrose County**  
March 17, 1951

The weather has been good but dry and feed is poor, below the last two years but could improve if we could get a little moisture. My sheep have wintered better than normal due to a very mild winter. The price of alfalfa hay is \$30 to \$35 in the stack and \$35 to \$40 baled. Lambing doesn't begin here until the first of April and most of it is done after May 15th. We shear in April also. Shearers are asking 40 cents with board as against 30 cents last year. This price is paid when the shearer does everything.



▲ Yearling Columbia Range Rams Sold to John Clerf, Kittitas, Columbia Basin, Wn. 1950.

Yearling Columbia Range Rams Sold to Ray Finley, Chinook, Browning, Milk River Valley, Montana. 1950. ▼

## WHITES COLUMBIA SHEEP CO.

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Rams also for sale with Mrs. A. Z. Thompson, Yakima, Wn.



Most of the wool has been sold at 80 cents to a top of \$1.27 but some is still in the growers' hands. Three thousand head of wether lambs have been contracted at 30 cents, weighed at home, and 6,000 head of mixed lambs sold at 32.5 cents, weighed at home.—*Chester Price*

**Meeker, Rio Blanco County**  
March 17, 1951

Shearing will begin after April 15th and shearers will be paid the same as last year, 32 cents without board. Practically all the wool has been bought in this area from 80 cents up to \$1.40.

Lambing has not started in this area yet; sufficient help will be hard to find. Feed conditions are fair but better this year than last. —*Angelo Poulos*

**Placerville, San Miguel County**  
March 19, 1951

Feed conditions are poor. We usually have plenty of snow but this year it has been very dry; sheep came through the winter only in fair condition. Lambing has not started yet. Alfalfa hay in the stack is \$30 a ton and baled \$40.

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**PEYTON GOOSE HATCHERY**  
Duluth 2K5, Minnesota

Shearing will start in this area about April 1st. Last year we paid 34 cents without board. I do not know what the rate is this year.

I have heard of no recent transactions in wool or any contracts for lambs.

—*Lee J. Proper*

**IDAHO**

**Rupert, Minidoka County**  
March 14, 1951

Feed conditions are better than previous years and prospects for turning the sheep out early are good. Sheep came through the winter very well.

We had good weather for lambing this year (February and March) and we saved about 15 percent more lambs than last year. Experienced men in shed work are short but help was plentiful for hay hauling. Alfalfa hay in the stack is \$17 a ton and baled is \$20.

Lambs have not been contracted in this section as yet but crossbred whitefaced yearling ewes have sold for \$40 to \$45. Wool has been bought from 75 cents up to \$1.47.

Shearing will commence about April 15th and continue through May 15th. Shearers are asking 50 cents with board compared with 43 cents in 1950.—*John Garro*

**Rexburg, Madison County**  
March 14, 1951

It is a little early to say how many lambs will be saved this year but we have had good weather with only one bad storm. Help was sufficient in number but not too good.

Feed conditions are a little above normal and my sheep wintered very well. Alfalfa hay is going at \$15 in the stack and \$18 baled.

There have been no sales of yearling ewes or lambs contracted to my knowledge. Some wools sold as low as 75 cents to a high of \$1.48. Two large wool pools sold early at 83 cents.

Shearing in our section usually begins in June and as yet I do not have any figures as to the rates.—*J. E. Garner*

**MONTANA**

**Quietus, Big Horn County**  
March 18, 1951

Yearling ewes have sold recently at \$40 in the wool and crossbred ewe lambs, whitefaced, at \$36 per hundredweight under 70 pounds. I sold my own clip of 1350 fleeces of half-blood and fine wool, including some buck wool, at \$1.25 per

pound. The wool will be blade-shorn before May 1st.

March has been cold and there is no indication of new feed as yet. Alfalfa hay in the stack is \$15 to \$17 a ton and baled runs from \$20 to \$25. Sheep and cattle wintered very well this year. Lambing has not started yet.

Shearing usually begins about June 1st. The rate is 50 cents, in the bag, with board, as compared with 37 cents, on the floor, last year. The contract includes a tromper and tier.—*Charles F. Conley*

**NEW MEXICO**

**Questa, Taos County**  
March 16, 1951

Wool has been contracted in Taos County at \$1 a pound but I have been consigning my wool to the Colorado Wool Marketing Association for ten years and I know I have made money by doing so. No lamb contracts have been made or sales of yearling ewes.

I will begin shearing by April 15th and will pay my shearers 40 cents with board as against 30 cents last year.

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Stockyards

My sheep wintered in good condition but feed is the shortest in many years. Although we have had a good winter we do need moisture. Lambing will begin by April 1st and sufficient help will be available.—C. A. Cisneros

#### UTAH

**Laketown, Rich County**  
March 17, 1951

Sheep will be shorn here about May 1st and shearers will receive about 60 cents with board compared to only 30 cents in 1950. The contract rate is around 60 to 75 cents and this includes shearing, wool packing and corral wrangling.

Some mixed grades of wool were contracted at \$1.25 to \$1.40. I do not know of any lamb contracts or yearling ewe sales in this section.

All the sheep in this locality are hay fed at the ranch and they came through the winter in very good condition. Alfalfa hay is \$18 a ton in the stack.—Morton Kearn

#### WASHINGTON

**Riverside, Okanogan County**  
March 16, 1951

Wether lambs went at 31 cents off the truck—no shrink. I have been offered 40 cents for crossbred ewe lambs, whitefaced; \$38 has been paid recently for crossbred whiteface yearling ewes. My wool sold this year at \$1.30 net to me at the ranch.

Shearing will not begin around here until May 1st. Spring is late and cold this year but the range will be good if we get a few warm days. My sheep came through the winter in good condition. The going price on alfalfa hay is \$25 to \$30. Lambing has not started yet but help should be sufficient.—Emmett Smith

#### March Weather

A severe cold wave moved over the northern Rockies and northern Plains on March 5, accompanied by near-blizzard conditions that blocked highways in Montana and North Dakota. Temperatures fell below zero as far south as Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Glasgow, Montana, reported 27 below on March 6th. California had moderate precipitation in coastal and mountainous sections, light in interior. At midweek snow fell in northern part of State, in some places for the first time in many years. Texas had mild, springlike weather all week, with new range and pasture feed coming along in eastern two-thirds, but still short.

In northern areas the entire week ending March 13th, was severely cold with frequent snowfall. Due to low temperatures also in western Washington and Oregon, much of the heavy precipitation fell as snow, the heaviest of the season in some places. California continued to receive moderate moisture on north coast and mountains; light elsewhere. It continued dry in Southwest, with Texas getting some relief through week-end showers.

Cold weather continued during the week ending March 20th, except in the far West and extreme South. A late spring freeze hit Texas. Ranges and pastures continued to improve at that time in the northern and

middle Pacific coastal regions, with livestock in good to very good condition. The unseasonable warmth and lack of rainfall had caused some deterioration in the condition of ranges in southern California. The cold weather and snow of the preceding week was unfavorable for young livestock in the northern Rockies and northern Great Plains, with losses in young pigs and calves increasing, but not abnormally high except in northeastern Montana. Range and pasture grass made good growth in northeastern Texas, with dryness and low temperatures holding the green feed in check elsewhere in the southern Great Plains.—U.S.D.A. Weather Reports

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For Sale By

### NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

414 Pacific National Life Building

Salt Lake City 1, Utah

## New Pastures Boost Australia's Sheep Production

(Continued from page 17)

Most spectacular soil-pasture improvement in Australia, however, has been in several millions of acres of mineral deficient soil in south-east South Australia. Ten years ago, it was a waste of low scrub known as the "Ninety Miles Desert." As the result of brilliant research by Commonwealth scientists, it is well on the way to becoming a completely productive area and its name has been changed to Coonalpyn Downs. Its development is expected to double South Australia's 10,000,000 sheep population. Within a decade, land values have hiked from \$1.25 to \$25 an acre.

Before treatment, this area would not grow grasses or clovers despite an adequate rainfall of up to 17 inches a year. The few sheep pastured there quickly lost condition and developed "brittle bones" disease which made their skeletons so fragile that legs and ribs were broken merely by running into sharp sticks or being hit lightly with a stone. Wool growth deteriorated and developed a "steely" texture which made proper spinning impossible. Black wool turned greyish. Breeding ewes could not be kept in the area. After being returned to normal pasture, sheep retained their health and other characteristics.

Scientists discovered that addition to the soil of about 60 cents' worth of copper and zinc salts an acre would promote a healthy growth of grasses and clovers to support up to two breeding ewes an acre. One of the most successful grasses is the tall perennial veldt grass (*Ehrharta calycina*) from South Africa.

These changes have started a land rush to the district. New owners include several breeders of stud Merino sheep and a big insurance company which has bought one million acres.

Other smaller coastal areas on which sheep developed "wasting disease," have been made normal by adding minute amounts of cobalt to the pasture. It is sometimes put in water troughs and salt licks. Similar work has been done in New Zealand's cobalt-deficient country.

Despite these great advances, many ranchers have not improved their pastures. They claim that such action would increase their work and that Merino wool loses some of its fineness when grown on rich grasses and clovers. The latter claim has been proved false and some larger unprogressive landholders have had portions of their properties acquired—under compensation—

for the settlement of World War II veterans.

Big properties administered from one home, have been subdivided to provide farms for at least ten progressive ex-soldiers who are already making good money from sheep on improved pastures. The Soldier Settlement Commission develops the farms and supplies them with homes, fences and other improvements before allotting them to veterans.

Australians believe that such investments will pay good dividends. Improved pastures have the added important advantage of providing a vegetative protection against erosion and of increasing soil fertility without which the continent would become a sterile waste. Progressive sheepmen will not be satisfied until every improvable acre has been developed and managed in such a way as to produce its maximum wool and meat for a starving world.

## Aftosa Progress

THE Joint Mexican-United States Commission has reason to pat itself on the back for the successful outcome of its vigorous efforts. While deeply concerned over the small outbreak of the disease in Vera Cruz last December—the first in 15 months—the Commission is reported as now being confident of its complete eradication in Mexico. They are keeping their fingers crossed, undoubtedly, and continuing inspections at the rate of about 2,500,000 animals weekly. It is the Commission's hope to be able to adopt a 60-day inspection schedule by July 1st.

An epidemic of stomatitis that has similar



—National Wool Grower

symptoms to Aftosa, has increased the inspectors' work. However, complete co-operation of the owners of stock in giving notice of the outbreak of this disease has greatly facilitated the work. The epidemic was dying down at the end of March.

A newspaper report from Corpus Christi, Texas, on February 26th that nine head of cattle had been smuggled across the border and one of them was infected with foot-and-mouth disease naturally caused a great deal of consternation. Investigation, however, showed the animal was just badly infested with ticks and not aftosa. While this story had a happy ending, it did bring out the need for keeping a close watch along the border.

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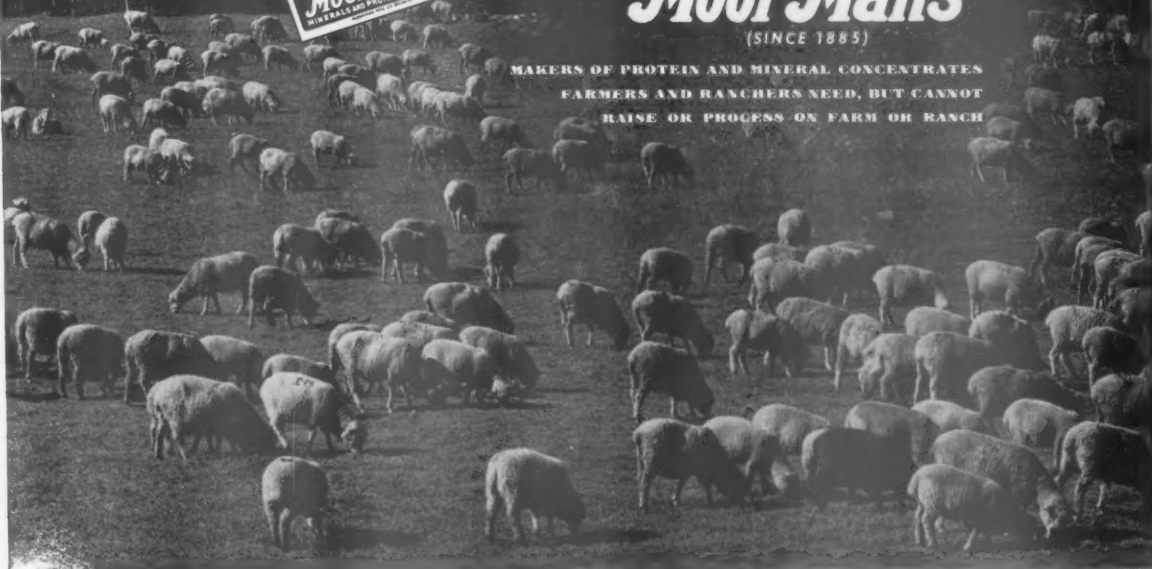
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65 loads steer calves	- - - - -	\$43.07 per cwt. av.
29 " heifer "	- - - - -	37.81 " " "
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4 " " heifers	- - - - -	33.21 " " "

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